JOHN BULL

Vol. XVI. No. 408. SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 1914. ONE PENNY

(Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.)

863982

For meaning of this No. see page 25.

The world is a bundle of hay;
Mankind are the asses who pull;
Each tugs it a different way,
And the greatest of all is John Bull

—BYRON.

Edited by
HORATIO BOTTOMLEY.

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SEE PAGE 27.

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"JOHN BULL" ENTRANCE FORM.

Matches to be played Saturday, Mar. 21st.

	HOME TEAM.		AWAY TEAM.
	Aston Villa	v.	Burnley
	Blackburn R.	v.	West Bromwich A.
	Bradford C.	v.	Sheffield Wednesday
	Derby County	v.	Chelsea
	Liverpool	v.	Preston N. End
	Manchester City	v.	Bolton Wanderers
	Middlesbro'	v.	Manchester United
	Sheffield United	v.	Oldham A.
	Sunderland	v.	Everton
	Tottenham H.	v.	Newcastle United
	Barnsley	v.	Stockport C.
	Blackpool	v.	Bristol City
	Bury	v.	Glossop
	Fulham	v.	Leicester F.
	Huddersfield	v.	Clapton O.
	Hull City	v.	Bradford
	Lincoln City	v.	Leeds City
	Notts Forest	v.	Birmingham
	Wolverhampton W.	v.	Notts County
	Woolwich A.	v.	Grimsby Town
	Bristol R.	v.	Northampton
	Cardiff City	v.	Brighton
	Exeter C.	v.	Portsmouth
	Merthyr T.	v.	Gillingham
	Plymouth A.	v.	Watford
	Queen's Park R.	v.	Millwall
	Reading	v.	Crystal Palace
	Southampton	v.	Coventry
	Swindon	v.	Southend
	West Ham U.	v.	Norwich C.

I enter "JOHN BULL" Football Competition in accordance with the rules announced on this page and agree to accept the Editor's published decision as final and legally binding, and enter on that understanding.

Signed .....

Address .....

.....

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Advertisement Department to cut out and save cut.

READ RULES CAREFULLY.

For this week only our Coupon is altered. When you have made up your mind which are "Away" teams will win, put a X in front of each of the six matches in which you forecast an "Away" win.

2. Having done this, write in ink (typewriting or pencilling will not do) your name and address in the space provided, cut out the Coupon, and address it to "JOHN BULL" Competition, Fleetway House, Farringdon Street, London, E.C., mark envelope in top left-hand corner, "Football Coupon No. 15," so as to reach us not later than Friday, March 20th.

3. The sum of £500 will be paid to the Competitor whose Coupon contains the correct results, as published in the "Sporting Life," of the six matches played to a finish on March 21st, in which the six "Away" teams win. Should it happen that no entrance form be received giving the six correct results, a cash prize of £200 will be paid to the competitor sending in the most correct forecasts, whatever the number, and £25 to the sender of the most correct forecasts on a Mauve Coupon taken from MARY BULL. If the sender of a Mauve Coupon should win or share the £500, or the £200 prize, the Mauve Bull prize will be awarded to the sender of the next most correct forecasts sent on a Mauve Coupon. In the event of the £500 being won, the £200 prize will, of course, not be awarded. The £25 Mauve Coupon prize will be paid in any event.

4. No responsibility will be accepted by the Editor for the loss or non-delivery of any effort. No correspondence will be entered into, neither will interviews be granted.

5. Any effort on which any alteration has been made will be disqualified.

6. In the event of a tie or ties in this competition, the £500 or the contingent prize of £200, as well as the special £25 Mauve Coupon prize, will be equally divided.

7. Our employees are strictly debarred from entering this contest.

THE CLOSING DATE IS FRIDAY, MARCH 20th.

DUPLICATE COUPON.

The following duplicate list of the matches is printed solely for the convenience of competitors desirous of keeping a record of their efforts. It must on no account be sent in, and will not be accepted as proof of forecasts made on the printed Form.

Away.	Home Team.	Away Team.	Away.	Home Team.	Away Team.
	Aston Villa	v. Burnley		Hull City	v. Bradford
	Blackburn R.	v. W. Bromwich A.		Lincoln City	v. Leeds City
	Bradford C.	v. Sheffield W.		Notts Forest	v. Birmingham
	Derby County	v. Chelsea		Wolverhampton	v. Notts C.
	Liverpool	v. Preston N. End		Woolwich A.	v. Grimsby T.
	Manchester C.	v. Bolton W.		Bristol R.	v. Northampton
	Middlesbro'	v. Manchester U.		Cardiff C.	v. Brighton
	Sheffield U.	v. Oldham A.		Exeter C.	v. Portsmouth
	Sunderland	v. Everton		Merthyr T.	v. Gillingham
	Tottenham H.	v. Newcastle U.		Plymouth A.	v. Watford
	Barnsley	v. Stockport C.		Queen's Park R.	v. Millwall
	Blackpool	v. Bristol C.		Reading	v. Crystal Palace
	Bury	v. Glossop		Southampton	v. Coventry
	Fulham	v. Leicester F.		Swindon	v. Southend
	Huddersfield	v. Clapton O.		West Ham U.	v. Norwich C.

JOHN BULL.

Politics without Party—Criticism without Cant:
Without Fear or Favour, Rancour or Rant.

Vol. XVI. No. 406. Week ending Saturday, March 14th, 1914. One Penny.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Letters must be addressed to the Editor or the Publisher, according to whether they relate to Editorial or Publishing matters. All **FINANCIAL, INSURANCE** *and* **SPORTING** *inquiries should be addressed to the* **CITY OFFICES, 52, NEW BROAD STREET, E.C.** *All other communications should be addressed to* **93, LONG ACRE, LONDON, W.C.**

All remittances, applications for advertising space, subscriptions, orders, etc., should be addressed to Odhams Limited, 93 and 94, Long Acre, London, W.C.

£10 REWARD.

Wanted, the Copy of "John Bull" for MARCH 7th, 1914, bearing on its Cover the Number 038,634.

Apply THE MANAGER, "JOHN BULL," 93, Long Acre, London, W.C.

The £10 Reward offered for the copy of "JOHN BULL" dated February 28th, and bearing the number 896,848, has been paid to Mr. A. E. Bodle, The New Inn, Pevensey, near Hastings.

THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL.

[The Editor discourses upon passing events and topics of the day.]

Coming to Gripe.

At the time of going to press, we are learning Mr. Asquith's proposals for a compromise on the Home Rule Bill. We will say no more at the moment, than that to give an option to every Irish county to stand out of the Act is the *reductio ad absurdum* of the whole business.

A Starchfield Mystery.

Whatever does the Attorney-General mean by asking that the "rule" recently granted against *Lloyd's* in respect of an alleged Contempt of Court should be served upon the Public Prosecutor "so that when the matter comes up for consideration it will be possible in the public interest for it to be investigated *apart from whatever dispute there may be between one newspaper and another*"? If by any chance Sir John Simon should be under the impression that, because we are finding the means for Starchfield's defence, we are behind the pending proceedings against our contemporary, we beg to assure him that, so far from such being the case, we have not even read the article upon which they are based.

A Word to Mr. Biron.

Does not Mr. Biron think some apology is now due to us in respect of his premature expression of opinion in regard to the call of the witness Moore at our offices? If he does not—we *do*.

"Other Times, Other Manners."

We were reading a few days ago in the *Daily Telegraph* a special editorial article on motor 'bus facilities for Sunday excursions. There was something comical in the sound of the phrase, "their new services"; but our point is that no responsible daily paper dared have published, a few years ago, such a guide to Sunday amusement—in other words, before JOHN BULL came on the scene.

The Whole Hogge.

In addition to taking charge in the House of Commons—if, and when, it ever gets there—of Lord Newton's Betting Inducements Bill, Mr. J. M. Hogge is introducing a measure on his own account, on the lines of Lord Loreburn's Bill of last year, to prohibit every form of newspaper competition. Of course, his only hope of getting it through would be to obtain Government facilities, as we cannot believe that such a cranky proposal will be permitted to pass unopposed; whilst as regards the Government, we should think that, in view of the forthcoming General Election, it would not be anxious to alienate several millions of the electorate who at present derive both pleasure and profit from legitimate newspaper competitions.

Civis Britannicus Sum.

Time was when the summary execution of a British citizen for no proven crime, and without due form of law, would have excited a fury of resentment, and a passionate outcry for redress. Yet the death of William Benton at the hands of a Mexican generalissimo, in circumstances of the gravest suspicion, provoked no marked outburst of popular indignation. The Foreign Office, hampered by nice considerations of diplomatic propriety, has exhausted its resources in an attempt to ascertain the facts of the tragic occurrence. We are assured that Sir Edward Grey's representations to Washington have lacked nothing of stern emphasis, but the United States Government is hampered by the measure of unofficial support which it has hitherto lent to the "constitutionalist" side in the Mexican *melee*. Had Benton been done to death by the Huerta faction, Washington might have welcomed the opportunity for active intervention. The short moral of the episode is clear. The expansion of British interests in Mexico must sooner or later spell the abrogation of the Monroe Doctrine, which at present hinders Great Britain from the effective protection of the lives and property of a section of her enterprising subjects.

Startling Football Prize Offer. £500 for 6 Results. See page 33.

A Chequered Career.

In January last Frank Clifford was arrested by the police while leading a winning racehorse from the Leicester course. He was subsequently charged with fraud, and it was then stated that he had enjoyed a varied career, having in turn been labourer, foreman, policeman, trader, bankrupt, builder, and aviator. He had also promoted picture theatres, and married a young widow with means. Nemesis, however, had overtaken him, and to prison he was sent. He has now bobbed up again, having been given leave of absence from gaol to attend the Dewsbury Police Court, where he was recently charged with obtaining £273 worth of jewellery by means of false pretences. For this piece of slim practice Clifford received six months' imprisonment, to run concurrently with the sentence which he is at present serving. This, of course, means that for the jewellery job he will actually endure no punishment at all. In explanation, it is said that the Nottingham Recorder, in sentencing Clifford in January, "took account" of other crimes in connection with which he was "wanted"; in other words, the prisoner was condemned in respect of offences which had not been proved against him in open court. Such an explanation leaves much to be desired,

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Getting Ready.

The Conservative Press has endeavoured to make capital out of the fact that "grand" naval manœuvres are not to take place during the coming season. Once more, however, the critics of Admiralty administration have reckoned without their host. The First Lord has now made it clear that all normal tactical exercises will take place as usual, but that the special strategic operations which have characterised recent manœuvres will this year be replaced by a test mobilisation of the Royal Fleet Reserve. All classes of the Reserve will be called out for training, and it is held that the experience thus gained will be of incalculable value in relation to the problems of national defence. It may be remembered that the result of last year's manœuvres was to confound the theorists and to demonstrate the practicability, in given circumstances, of overseas invasion.

Derbyshire Devilries.

With a view to the "correction" of a serving maid of 14, William Henry Salisbury, a superintendent insurance agent at Mansfield, Derbyshire, cut the child's ear with a knife, scarred her arm with a red-hot poker, and struck and bruised her in a variety of ways. At length the poor little drudge escaped from the fiend's clutches, and walked to Chesterfield to seek the protection of her mother. The woman at once communicated with the police, and Salisbury was subsequently arrested and arraigned before the Mansfield Bench. The worthy magistrates, after hearing the revolting tale of his devilries and witnessing the child's injuries, pronounced a sentence of one month's hard labour, which will doubtless be made as light as possible for a "gentleman" with white hands. Where's our whip?

A Pertinent Inquiry.

Mrs. Reid—sister of Mr. Benton, the British subject murdered by the villainous ruffian in command of the Mexican revolutionary forces—writes to ask, among other things, "Can English men and women no longer depend upon their country for protection or redress?" Much to our regret, the answer is in the negative; but it will be quite all right when we become subjects of the German Kaiser. If anybody in any other part of the earth then kicks or kills or says rude things to us, there will be trouble.

The Sin of Stupidity.

Another instance of the impression we are making on thoughtful, cultured, and even religious minds is seen in an admirable sermon preached by the Rev. W. Temple, the Headmaster of Repton, in the chapel of that excellent public school. The title of the sermon is "The Sin of Stupidity." "And, of course," he declared, "the field which stupidity claims for its very own is politics. A professional politician is almost in duty bound to be stupid, or at least to speak as if he were. . . . We suffer, it is hard to say how much, from the combined efforts of the stupid Conservative who thinks that all change is wrong, and the stupid Radical who thinks that any change is right. Can we not, those of us at least to whose education much time and money has been given—can we not detach ourselves from the fooleries of Party and just honestly think?" This is hitting the nail on the head with a will; and when we strike a medal the reverend gentleman may rely on us to award him one hot from the die.

Dragon's Teeth.

Superficial indications of the success of repressive measures in South Africa may well prove gravely misleading. Order has been maintained and bloodshed has for the most part been averted, but there has been no attempt to grapple with the underlying causes of unrest, which are of far more sinister import than its occasional and sporadic manifestations. As we have never failed to insist, the white population of the Colony is fast gathering itself into rival industrial camps, irrespective of racial distinction and with scant regard to mere political considerations. The employment of force by a local Government, hopelessly divorced in sentiment from the helots of industrialism, serves but to inflame existing hostilities and to aggravate an already perilous situation. Sooner or later the fact must be faced that the restoration of peace in South Africa is an Imperial job.

Mr. Churchill: His Shirt.

With all respect to the religious proclivities of the *Daily News*, it is hereby requested that our contemporary will leave Mr. Churchill's shirt alone. Commencing a leader entitled "Fast and Loose"—for our part we do not know whether it *is* fast or loose—that newspaper stated, "Mr. Churchill refused to wear the white shirt in presenting his supplementary estimates for the Navy." A First Lord of the Admiralty is entitled to wear any kind of shirt he pleases, on any occasion; but if he didn't please to wear a white shirt on this occasion, what kind of shirt did he wear? A blue one with red stripes, interspersed with yellow spots? There really seems to be no limit to the astounding familiarities of the halfpenny press nowadays. One of these lovely mornings we expect to rise and find the *Daily News* complaining of the hue of Mr. Bonar Law's half hose.

The State and the Criminal.

All sorts of novel pleas are set up by prisoners in extenuation of their crimes. An old offender, charged with the attempted theft of a motor-car, was asked the usual question, whether he had anything to say, etc. "I trust your lordship will take into consideration the very short time I have been at liberty," was the quaint reply. The problem of the correct treatment of the habitual offender seems as far from solution as ever. The scheme of so-called "preventive detention" which has been in force for some years seems to have utterly failed as a deterrent, and its working has been attended with much difficulty and friction. The whole subject of the relations of the State to the criminal stands in need of re-consideration. We doubt whether the present Home Secretary is quite the man for the job.

Our Fortune for Nothing! See the Amazing Prize Offer on page 27.

Unsworn Evidence.

Thus Mr. Montagu Sharpe, at the Middlesex Sessions, to a prisoner found not guilty of shop breaking: "You know what I know and the jury don't know. Now you go and keep away from these dangerous places, or you may not be so lucky again." We will pass over the implied doubt of the prisoner's innocence, which should hardly have found expression after the jury's acquittal For the rest, the occult knowledge hinted at by the learned Chairman probably consisted of a "police statement" concerning the prisoner's "past," which may or may not have included particulars of previous criminal convictions. The provision of such *dossiers* for the private reference of the bench is a mischievous feature of our criminal administration. They doubtless consist in a large measure of *ex parte* statements with reference to the careers of accused persons which, though they cannot be verified by examination upon oath, are none the less calculated to prejudice all but the firmest of judicial minds. We have repeatedly protested against the admission of such matters to the counsels of justice, either orally or in documentary form. Upon the conviction of a prisoner, the testimony of the police should be restricted to a simple enumeration—without comment on his previous convictions, if any.

What the—Inspector—Said.

It is remarkable to observe the childlike deference which is paid by judicial authority generally to the *ipse dixit* of a policeman. In a case before the courts the other day—no matter what its merits—one of the parties was severely cross-examined, without interruption by the Judge, as to whether upon various occasions certain police inspectors had not made statements regarding his career. We have no hesitation in saying that every interrogation of that kind should have been at once disallowed, and the cross examination confined to actual questions of fact, and not of *ex parte* reports.

Gret and Camel.

Here we are again! A shop-keeper who sells a penny ball of string at two minutes past one on closing day—or who fails to "cover up" to the satisfaction of the inspector, when, in the beauty of the statute, half his shop is open and the other half is shut—is reasonably assured of condign punishment. But when a girl who had served from 10 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. in a public-house was required to work on till 11.30 p.m. at the bar of a theatre, said to be under the same management, it was held that her employer was not liable in respect of her excessive hours of labour, a theatre bar not being a "shop" within the meaning of the Act. From which it follows that, as far as the Shops Act is concerned, a girl may work in one place all day and in another all night, and no fussy inspector shall dare to disturb her employer's peace. And still there are a few good souls who express surprise that we do not regard the Act as a monument of wisdom!

"Bechuanaland Missionary's Soft Job."

With reference to what was recently said by us regarding the light-hearted way in which one of the London Missionary Society's representatives in Bechuanaland was said to be taking his job, the Secretary of the Society tells us that he is inquiring into the matter. "I may add," he says, "that a short time ago the directors of this Society decided to move the missionary to whom the letter refers, for reasons not connected with complaints such as those mentioned in your correspondent's letter." So, so; but he doesn't appear to have moved.

Backers and Layers.

When a man takes out a policy of life assurance, he is, in effect, wagering upon the probable duration of his life. The odds are that he won't live long enough to pay in more than his representative will draw out; while the company take the risk that, on the average, premiums and interest will cover claims and expenses—and leave a substantial margin of profit. The thing is in essence a gamble, although experience and actuarial wisdom may make it "odds on" the company all the time. So fire insurance corporations are open to bet you three hundred pounds to five shillings that you don't have a fire in the next twelve months, while any insurance society will lay money to your half-crown that your maid does not fall downstairs and break her leg or her neck within a similar period. Yet, quite recently, when a bookmaker sued a Lloyd's underwriter for the amount of an Ascot bet, the dishonest plea of the Gaming Act was successfully raised, and the commission agent went empty away. His is the one form of gambling which is not protected by law. A Business Government would sweep away so invidious and absurd an exception, merely taking steps to ensure that all kinds of wagering contracts should conform to equitable rules.

A Parson on Beer.

Looking over some of the letters which our recent "Unconventional Thoughts" brought us, we struck this—from a Norwich parson:—"I must thank you for your true and clever remarks on the *evils* of *Total Abstinence*, and the praise of the moderate use of good wine and good beer. I truly believe (from some 40 years' experience) wine and beer were meant to be *helpful to health*, and to serve sometimes as an antidote even to various diseases. I dare to assert that sometimes *water* is one of the principal causes of cancer. My dear grandmother was 99½ years, and never drank water, pure and simple, for at least 50 years before her death! Her drink was good port and stout. I quite agree with you about the general dulness of total abstainers, and their often tremendous appetites. The vines of Palestine corresponded with the wheatfields of England, and the wine press was a special feature; and the wine must have been fermented, else why sometimes did the bottles burst? My doctor's bill in 30 years does not average one shilling a year, in the providence of God."

Careless Colliers.

Hard upon a case which recently provoked our comment comes the conviction and fine of Samuel Colburn, a driver, for taking a cigarette into a pit at the Conduit Colliery, Norton Canes. The offence was a flagrant breach of a regulation framed in the interests of the men's own safety, and was thus devoid of the least vestige of excuse. In these circumstances the fine of £2 was by no means excessive. It is intolerable that a few men here and there should thus imperil the lives of their comrades and furnish callous mine-owners with an excuse, which they will not be slow to embrace, for shifting the blame for accidents on to the shoulders of the men. Cannot the Unions find effective means of exterminating this class of offence? It is their intimate concern.

"Move On, Please!"

A considerable number of regimental quartermaster sergeants are still to be found hanging on in depôts, although they have long qualified for their full pension and stand no chance of further advancement, owing to age. These men are blocking the promotion of many battery staff sergeants. Now, P.-c. Seely, clear away the obstruction!

Amazing! "Mary Bull" Offers £5 a Week for Life. See page 27.

A Businesslike Retort.

Here is a tip to those persons who carry revolvers. One of our readers for a number of years has renewed his licence with regularity. This year, being on the Continent at the time the new licence should have been taken out, the London County Council sent him by post a reminder, from which we quote :—

> I beg to draw your attention to the matter in case you should have omitted to notice the date of expiration of your Licence. If a Licence has been taken out by you for any other address, or if you have not shot and do not intend to shoot during the year, *please disregard this notice.*

Our friend replied as follows :—

> I am in receipt of your notice, and beg to state that I do not intend to shoot during the year except in case of certain eventualities.

In other words, our correspondent does not intend to shoot so long as Bill Sikes keeps out of his premises—in which case we suppose he would be summoned for shooting without a licence. In the meantime, he saves his half-guinea.

A Brotherly Bishop.

There has been much talk of the "dearth of curates" in the Church of England, and all sorts of explanations of the phenomenon have been advanced. It is no business of ours, but we should have thought the reason pretty obvious to any observant man. There will never be an adequate supply of suitable men for the work of the Church until its rulers can devise some means of furnishing curates with a living wage. However much the ministerial calling may be idealised, this is the plain truth of the matter. Fine words butter no parsnips, and it is mockery to talk of a clergyman's "high calling" and then to offer him a stipend which any self-respecting mechanic would reject with proper contempt. We are glad to note that the Bishop of Bath and Wells is alive to this aspect of the matter. His Lordship desires to see a redistribution of the revenues of the Church, "even if it involves revision of the income of bishops." If the bishop means what he says, his sentiments do him credit. What have his episcopal brethren to say?

Crazy Criminals.

Dr. Schafer, of Berlin, has been conducting certain psychological experiments among German school children, as a result of which he concludes that young people under fifteen "have no moral ethical sense." We hesitate to adopt the doctor's somewhat sweeping generalisation with regard to the rising generation, but it might doubtless be applied with perfect truth to many adult criminals. Legislators and judges are slow to realise that a large and a growing proportion of the crime with which they have to deal is nothing more or less than lunacy. There are scores of poor wretches eating their hearts out in our convict prisons who, in any humane system, would be the subjects of scientific treatment and kindly medical care. Prison officials could speak volumes if they chose, but few care to think of the grim tragedies which are played to their fearsome finish behind those grisly walls.

"A 'Oly Terrier."

A true story: A member of the East Lancashire Royal Engineers thought after he had served for four years that he would give soldiering a rest for a bit, and resigned. Upon handing in to the Quartermaster his uniform, he was charged five shillings damages—presumably for a few moth holes. Being a philosopher, he paid up like a man; after which he addressed a few words of wisdom to his late officer. "If the War Office is so dam'd hard up for money," said the "'Oly Terrier," "you should set Seely working out some JOHN BULL 'Bullets.'" Saucy!

Something for Nothing.

The case of Mrs. Holloway, of Westbury, Wilts, is typical of Post Office methods. "Madame," writes the Acting Postmaster at Trowbridge to her, "In view of the Westbury, Wilts, Post Office closing on and from the 19th inst. at 8 instead of 9 p.m., it has been suggested that you would be willing to take out a licence for the sale of stamps. It should be understood that you would receive no commission or direct profit from the sale of stamps, that you would be required to give a bond of £100 to the Inland Revenue Authorities, and that you would have to exhibit a notice to the public intimating that stamps are sold on your premises. It is desirable that as far as possible the stamps should be purchased at the Westbury Office . . . . ." It may be that the Postmaster has made a mistake. The old lady keeps a little refreshment shop; she is not, as he may suppose, an inmate of a lunatic asylum.

"Consent Me Well."

One of the officials of the Block "A" Mining Company, at Prestea, in the Gold Coast Colony, tickles us with a letter sent to him by a nigger who wished to explain his absence from work. "Dear Master," it runs, "Please my wife was born last night. Therefore I write this few letter to know something about of it. Because I never get chance to come work this time, and if I never give you notice then you didn't see the thing which I am doing it at home, so therefore if this note comes to your hand so understand me and consent me well, and also I never get somebody to attend her for me in good order please and oblige sir good morning master, Your Boy James." The interpretation of which is that Mrs. Black had suddenly presented Mr. Black with a piccaninny, and that he was the only other person on the premises when it arrived.

Llanelly Solicitor's Gross Insult.

We are in hearty agreement with Judge Bryn Roberts in his quick and emphatic rebuke of Mr. J. W. Bishop, a Llanelly solicitor who appeared for a defendant in the Swansea County Court. The solicitor had offensively asked a friend of the plaintiff, in cross-examination, "Which is the biggest liar, you or he?" In the first place, it wasn't grammar, and in the second place it wasn't courtesy. "It is not a proper question," said the judge. "It is a very improper question. A witness is not here to be insulted merely because he gives his evidence in the way you do not want." This legal gentleman thought he was; now he knows better. There are few limits to the monstrous licence of cross-examination, but we congratulate Judge Bryn Roberts on having discovered one of them.

The Old Book.

What a wonderful old book the Bible is! The other day we came across this confession of Solomon:—"There be three things which are too wonderful for me, yea, four which I know not: The way of an eagle in the air: the way of a serpent upon a rock: the way of a ship in the midst of the sea and the way of a man with a maid." Of course, we are all wiser than Sol men nowadays, and doubtless any Council schoolboy could enlighten him on the first three points. But the last will ever remain a mystery.

"Ask and Ye Shall——"

In order to oblige a reader, we sit like St. Matthew at the receipt of custom. "Let's have a daily paper from you," he says; "am sure it would be a success. Towards the cost of initial production ask readers of JOHN BULL for a million shillings, which would be at once subscribed." This is to ask.

Result of our No. 12 Football Contest. See page 5.

"As Alderman of Parts."

Mr. Alderman Wilson, of Leeds, has taken exception to the reproduction in a recent issue, under this heading, of the wild and whirring terms of abuse applied to him by the Editor of the *Bradford Socialist Vanguard*. We think Mr. Alderman Wilson is taking too seriously a paragraph which was intended to be a sarcastic comment upon Mr. Councillor Glyde, the Editor of the socialistic organ. We, of course, never intended to cast any reflection upon Mr. Wilson who, we understand, is much respected, and if anything we have said can be so construed, we much regret it.

Parson'c.

Taking his Parish Magazine as our guide, the parson who runs St. Augustine's, Highgate, N., is scarcely as familiar with the Christian amenities as he ought to be. Advertising a course of sermons he adds: "If you know anyone who does not go to church on Sundays, or perhaps only goes to one of the modern substitutes for church called chapels, send or bring them (*sic*) to these sermons." It is always a matter of regret to us to perceive a gentleman seeking a quarrel with other gentlemen in the same line of business, though not trading in the same street. As far as we can make out from the various spiritual itineraries, all rev. gentlemen are going the same way home, and the least they can do is to be rather nice to each other *en route*.

"Citizenship, not Politics."

A very interesting test election has been decided at S. Anne's-on-Sea, the object being to fill a vacancy on the County Council. The candidates were Mr. C. F. Critchley, who fought as an Independent and refused to have anything to do with the Party machine, and Mr. W. Thompson, who sought election on the Conservative ticket. The result was that Mr. Critchley romped home by 1,487 to 978. "Probably never again," says the local *Visitor*, "will a Council candidate attempt to gain a seat by means of Party machinery, after such a crushing public verdict against this *modus operandi*." Evidently it is not only a Business Government they want in St. Anne's, but they are determined to get it.

An Awkward Encounter.

We observed that just prior to his execution the young scoundrel, Hall, *alias* Sumner, who murdered the manageress, Miss Bradfield, was "confirmed" by the Bishop of Liverpool. We hope, for poor Miss Bradfield's sake, the confirmation did not "take," and that she is not to be haunted through all eternity by the presence of her murderer. Have these parsons no sense of propriety? Just as the Party politicians are disgusting the Man in the Street with their absurd antics, so are the heads of the Church alienating the public.

Lord Robert Cecil on Party.

Lord Robert Cecil made a striking pronouncement at Welwyn recently: "I am no lover of the Party system," he declared. "The Party system and Party spirit have been carried too far in this country, and a vast amount of energy is wasted which might be better devoted to the advantage of the whole community. What were they to do?" (A Voice: "Have a Business Government." Applause.) "Yes, have a Business Government." Hear, hear!

What Next?

We observe that certain of the "Labour M.P.s" are introducing a Bill to prohibit shaving on Sundays. Where will these cranks stop? It is a short cut from shaving to other sanitary necessities.

RHYMES OF THE TIMES.

THE TALKERS.

Listen! Can you hear them, at the House of Tedious Talk?
The Ins have got a lovely plan the Outs to fairly baulk,
So tongues are wagging quickly, while the knowing ones rejoice—
And automatic figures sit who wait their master's voice.

Listen! Can you hear them; it's a very fine debate
About the Truce of Timbuktoo, or something quite as great!
The Party have adopted it, and mean to see it through,
Though no one quite knows what it is, or what it's meant to do.

Listen! Can you hear them, the Whips are out to-day,
Rounding up the laggards and chasing them from play!
Their precious votes are needed, so in manner far from bold
They hurry down the corridor to vote as they are told.

Listen! Can you hear them? They are fairly at it now,
The Ministers are wrangling, while the others snap "Bow-wow."
"You're a liar!" "You're another!" "Oh, rats!"
"Shut Up!" "Hooray!"
The dignity of Parliament has slipped a cog to-day.

Listen! Can you hear them? What is it all about?
Well, the Party that is in is trying hard not to get out.
That's all that is the matter, that's the reason there's delay
Over matters that true Business men could settle in a day!

THE WEEK'S "BISCUIT."

"Taking the Biscuit" has become a classic phrase, expressive of a satirical compliment. Below we present, each week, and in all good humour, the "Biscuit" to the individual or periodical named, in respect of the achievement or utterance indicated.]

For stating that an option to every Irish county to stand out of the Home Rule Bill "in no way affects the principle of the measure."

THE GOVERNMENT PRESS
Takes the Biscuit.

RESULT OF OUR TWELFTH FOOTBALL COMPETITION.

The results of the matches in our No. 12 Competition panned out so peculiarly that it is not surprising that nobody got near to a correct coupon. The following fifteen competitors sent coupons containing five errors, and so share the £150 Consolation Prize. Each receives £10:—

BOOT, Albert, 14, Marlo Hill-parade, Cheltenham; DICKER, C., 30, Avenue-rd., Brentford; FARRAND, W., 16, Peel-st., Rockmondwike, Yorks; HURDLE, Mrs., 40, Leverton-st., Kentish Town, N.W., LEAR, Ernest, 113, Markeaton-st., Derby; LIGHT, James, Winterbourne, Salisbury, Wilts; McCREADIE, Mrs., 6, Montgomerie-st., Ardrossan, Scotland; MELLOR, Wm., 153, Oldham-rd., Waterloo, nr. Ashton-under-Lyne; POTTER, C., 198, Folkestone-rd., Dover; RIDGEWELL, Geo. A., 60, Halifax-rd., Enfield, Midx.; RATCLIFFE, Miss M., "Trewen," Heron Court-rd., Bournemouth; SHONK, E. G., 1, Richmond-place, Lillie Bridge, Earl's Court, S.W.; TAYLOR, J., 27, Conewood-st., Highbury, N.; WELLER, W. T., 46, Stanhope-gdns., Harringay, N.; WILKINS, C. H., 50, Howard-rd., Southampton.

The £50 Mauve Coupon Prize is shared by the following seventeen competitors, who sent coupons containing six errors. Each receives £2 18s. 10d:—

ALLUM, Mrs., 52, Clifford-gdns., Kensal Rise, N.W.; AMANS, Miss E., 12, Ainsdale-grove, Reddish; BOWDEN, C., 19, Edendale-terrace, Gateshead-on-Tyne; CUBINS, Miss K. M., 221, Lansdowne-rd., Tottenham; COCKBURN, —, 3, Glyn-cottages, Falmouth; EVANS, Alice, 25, Charlotte-st., Folkestone; GORDON, Mrs., 32, Clifton-rd., Wallington, Surrey; HALL, Mrs. M. A., 40, Cleaver-rd., Custom House, Victoria Docks, E.; LOXG, Dulcie, Heath-cres., Graigwen, Pontypridd; LONGMORE, Mrs., 10, Graham-rd., Chiswick; MONRRIS, Ellen, 8, Kilburn House, Malvern-rd., W. Kilburn, N.W.; NASH, Mrs E., 9, Torbran-terrace, Pontnewynydd, Mon.; PENSHON, Mrs. R., 8, Tel-el-Kebir-rd., Hendon, Sunderland; RIDDY, Mrs. Hannah, Police Station, Standish, nr. Wigan; SMITH, Mrs. E., 135, Brighton-rd., Surbiton; SCOTT, M. J., 42, Edw-st., Edentown, Carlisle; TROTMAN, Mrs. M., 62, Dynevor-rd., Tunbridge Wells.

Don't forget the Pen Coupon on page iii. of cover.

"LIVING ON LLOYD GEORGE."

WHAT IT IS LIKE FOR A WORKING-CLASS FAMILY.

By "One Who Has Done It."

[Below we publish, in his own words, the plain, unvarnished and unbiased story of one of our best type of workers, who had eleven weeks' experience of the operation of the Insurance Act. As will be seen, it is a simple, but touching, annal of the poor, though in addition it contains one or two valuable suggestions for the improving of the scheme.]

Starting work at the age of ten, I have been a hard worker for close on forty years. During all the years I paid into the clubs I never drew a penny piece out—not even in winter, when our trade is quiet, generally managing, with an effort, of course, to earn as much, or a little more, than if I had thrown myself on the club for out-of-work benefit. But an illness of 11 weeks makes a difference.

Thankful for so Small an Allowance.

There is no doubt Mr. Lloyd George must have had such-like cases as mine in his mind when he introduced the scheme. I sincerely say I feel truly thankful for so small an allowance.

Except for it we might have drifted to the workhouse—most degrading, especially to a man that has worked hard and always tried to keep himself and family respectable. Here I am with a wife and four kiddies—none working, oldest just turned thirteen, next is five, three and two. Therefore, having no other income whatever makes your head take two sizes larger hat thinking and pondering how to lay it out for the best.

Of course, an illness lasting two or three weeks is not so bad. For instance, the grocer, the coalman, milkman, butcher, will let you have a little credit. Again, the landlord doesn't mind you getting behind a week or two. But after the third week things begin to get tighter all round. Our children had been accustomed to having a little meat, gravy, potatoes, or some other vegetable, with a pudding of some kind to follow. After three weeks this had to be stopped. The meat allowance had to be reduced to "threepenny worth of pieces," done in the stew jar with carrots 1d., onions 1d., and potatoes boiled in their skins. The kiddies being very healthy and hungry would devour the peelings as fast as the mother could take them off (what we had usually given to the children's pet rabbits). But we have now to think of every penny, so the pet rabbits had to be sold. The landlord's agent has paid us several visits about the rent. The landlord doesn't come himself—they never do when the pressure has to be put on.

During the first week or two I could not take any solid food—chiefly milk. But as I improved the doctor said "I will give you a tonic" (panel doctor, and one of the best). This is the irony of it—a tonic; yes, the right thing to do, I suppose, to build up the system for work again. Before this it was taxing our wits how best to make the 10s. spin out. Neither my wife nor I were good at begging. We had always preferred earning.

The Bullfinch has to Go.

We have already sent to "uncles" our surplus stock of clothing, boots, sheets, etc. Am looking round to see what will be the next thing to raise an extra bob or two on. Ah!! ha!! The bullfinch (another pet) we have brought up from pin feather, now nicely piping his notes. "What can we raise on that, dad?" says mother. "2s. 6d., if well sold," I remarked, feeling hurt. But little Samuel had heard these words—(a bright little chap, "daddie's dead spit" and "mammie's darling")—cried, "Oh! daddie, don't sell my 'Bully'!" But "Bully" had to go for 1s. 9d. at the finish. Little Sammie dreamt that night about his "Bully," and said some robbers had taken it.

Eighth week. Being over anxious to get back to work, I went out too soon—result, knocked back to bed with a severe influenza cold. To make matters worse, our baby girl (the only one, the rest are boys)—yes, little golden-haired Mary, called after our noble Queen:

> Kind, kind, and gentle is she,
> Kind is our Mary,

caught the beastly cold, which turned to pneumonia. Lively little Mary, now taken dangerously ill, seemed to make the gloom still more gloomy and fill our home with sadness. There she lay, three days and three nights scarcely opening her lovely eyes, scarcely moving, except to take something to moisten her parched lips and throat.

We seemed to be creeping about like mice, with scared faces—even the doctor seemed to feel the strain. After the third day there was a marked change for the better. Mary opened her eyes (startled like), looked round, and called "Daddie! Daddie!!" Thank God, the fever had left her, and what had seemed all so sad had turned to gladness. The doctor smiled, and said our little loved one had turned the corner and would soon get better again.

Still the struggle is hard and the burden heavy. Yet we're not grumbling; as trouble comes in at the door, love doesn't fly out of the window. My wife never murmurs, but always tries to put a smiling face on, though during my illness I have often seen a tear roll down her cheek.

Ways and Means.

The illness of our beloved Mary unavoidably caused a little extra run on the exchequer. How is it to be met? The doctor—he's all right; of course, he will wait. We don't seem to have anything more we can pledge or sell except Jock, the thrush, another pet. I remarked that we might get 5s. for him if we could find a customer, as he was singing nicely now. But kiddies are quick to hear, are they not?—especially when you are in distress. Archie, our staunch little five-year-old, rushed on me, exclaiming "Oh, daddie, daddie! you're not going to sell Jock, are you? Look how disappointed Mary will be when she gets about again. She'll break her little heart, she will."

After all Archie's pleading we decided to keep the lovely thrush (he is whistling now by gas light as I write). My wife other winters (or when I have been ill) has generally gone out to work as cook, or something of that kind. She couldn't this winter as we are expecting another little one into the world shortly. I will now give a few details of how we spent Lloyd George's allowance of 10s. per week:—

	s.	d.
Sugar, 6 lbs., at 2d.	1	0
Flour, 20 lbs.	2	0
Barm		2
Tea, ¼ lb.		9
Margarine (overweight)	1	4
Oatmeal		4
Potatoes		10
Milk	2	0
Bacon, 2 lbs. at 7d.	1	2
Jam (large pot)		0½
Total	10	1½

You will notice that we have bought flour and baked it ourselves, being more substantial than bought bread. There is nothing allowed out of ten shillings for rent, coal (a serious item in winter), gas, oil, or candles, funeral benefit club, or many other little expenses frequently occurring where there is a family.

I have heard many expressions of disgust at the Chancellor's scheme; heard him called some awful names—such as thick-head, etc., but my humble opinion of his head (from a phrenological point of view) is that it must be broad to ever attempt to organise so great a scheme. Should he ever read this, though, and I hope he will as it will bear the strictest investigation), he will see that there should be a little more allowed where there is a young family and no one working but the husband.

Again, from this same standpoint, does the out-of-work allowance seem enough for a working man placed in my position?—7s. per week. I am not appealing for more for myself (as I have had such a putting up over this job I hope and trust that I may never require it again), but for other workers placed in a similar position.

HOOLIGANS AT THE HALLS.

A PLEA FOR FAIRPLAY FOR PERFORMERS.

By "One-of Them."

Although it is generally admitted that entertainments are an improvement on what they were in the "old days," the reprehensible conduct of certain audiences is getting worse, such conduct not being confined to 'Varsity students.

Undiscriminating "Rain."

The Press recently referred to the noise made at the bars of a certain London musichall, but many artistes at present working in the North would consider such mild conduct much in the light of a compliment after their Scottish and Tyneside experiences. At some halls artistes are frequently assailed with oranges, onions, eggs, cabbages, and even iron bolts. These are not meted out merely to what are commonly called "dud" turns, but to first-class artistes. The members of the audience do not wait to ascertain whether a performer is good, bad or indifferent, but immediately he, or she, appears upon the stage, discouraging and filthy remarks are passed, frequently followed by missiles. To the credit of some managers, it must be said that every effort is made to prevent this, but in many cases little or nothing is done, and the hooligans are practically allowed to go on in their own "sweet" way; in fact the majority attend the hall for the purpose of annoying the artistes. I can state, from my personal knowledge, that this reprehensible conduct is even encouraged at certain of these halls. At them a "special night" is advertised at which those performers who have not been fortunate enough to obtain a full week's engagement may appear for a few shillings—and there are many in the district. As these poor people (some of them clever artistes, who would meet with instantaneous success if an opportunity were given them in the South) must do something or starve, there is no lack of "turns." Indeed several agents get their living chiefly by drawing commissions from these atrociously paid people. The tempting bait of "future engagements" is held out to them, but no matter how their efforts are appreciated by the audience, an engagement rarely follows. Each takes his 5s. or 10s. to his humble "diggings" (less 6d. or 1s. to the agent) and rejoices in the fact that he can exist for another day.

A Sorry Sight.

In support of my statement that hooliganism is practically encouraged by certain managers, I can prove that a few weak-minded people are "engaged" for these special nights in order to amuse the audience and bring into being their noisy and "Aunt Sally" propensities. One middle-aged man, who can neither sing nor entertain in any way, is given three or four shillings in order that he may be the target for orange peel and other refuse that the members of the audience have been saving, during the evening, for the purpose. For his services (?) he has been presented with a brass medal, which he proudly wears on each occasion. Another weak-minded person, a girl of about seventeen years of age, is also frequently seen. On the last occasion the writer saw her she was put into an attendant's coat and a cap from a Christmas cracker was placed upon her head. Her nose was "made-up" with carmine and her eyebrows pencilled *a la* George Robey; and this poor girl, with that grotesque appearance, endeavoured to sing "My heart is with you To-night"! The stage hands were kept busy switching the footlights on and off and showing various coloured lights while she stood the insults and missiles of the howling mob, semi-content to know that she would receive the munificent sum of 3s. 6d.

It can readily be understood what the feelings of the acknowledged performers are, they being compelled to appear on the same stage and on the same night. The rowdy conduct of the audience having been encouraged by such exhibitions of the incompetent, the efforts of the legitimate artistes are not appreciated as they would be under different circumstances, and they also have to bear insults and meet them with smiling faces or an assumed indifference. What is the music-hall profession coming to when such exhibitions as these are tolerated? And it is not only in small halls but in the large ones having full orchestras.

May I ask the great John Bull to take up the cudgels on behalf of music-hall artistes generally?

CHURCH ARMY CALLOUSNESS.

DISGRACEFUL TREATMENT OF DYING MAN.

The evidence at the inquest, in Middlesbrough, on the body of Daniel Bell, illustrates the imperative need of change in the methods of management in the Church Army Home of that town. "On a wet and stormy night, Saturday, February 14th," a little girl saw someone put his head out of a window at the Home and glance up and down the road. A few moments afterwards two men came out of the building carrying something, deposited it on the footway, and left it there. She called her father and mother; they found that the "something" brought out of the Home was poor Bell, "scarcely breathing." Like good Samaritans, they carried him to their house, but as they were unable to revive him they called in a sergeant of police. To investigate the girl's story, the officer went to the Home and saw a Mr. Wallbank, the Assistant Manager, who alleged that Bell had, during the afternoon, gone into the place drunk, that he had been allowed to stay, but as he did not recover he was put out at 11 o'clock at night. At the inquest on the body Wallbank added that when Bell was put out at the back door they noticed that he could not walk. "They had had to carry him from the bathroom. The ground outside was wet, but they left him on the pavement. They thought he would recover in the fresh air."

The man was, however, not drunk; he was suffering from cerebral hæmorrhage, and—while admitting that it is perhaps difficult, perhaps at times impossible, for a layman to differentiate between a drunken man and one in the admitted condition of Bell—it is hard to understand why he was left on the bathroom floor at the Home all those hours without any of the officials troubling about him, or without a doctor being called in to ascertain his actual condition; still less can we understand the gross inhumanity of stealthily carrying him out in his dead-alive state, drunk or not drunk, at 11 o'clock at night and leaving him on the wet pavement for anybody's notice, succour or no succour, careless of any consequences so long as he was disposed of somehow; carrying him out of this Home of Christian rescue on a "wet and stormy night," and abandoning him like a dead dog. To that shameful and shameless proceeding it is not an answer that "even if he had received medical attention during the time he had been thought to be drunk it would have made no difference." This was certainly not the treatment which should have been accorded in such a place to a man in *any* condition, whether he was ill, or whether he was drunk—first neglect, then callous, incompassionate abandonment on the cold, soaking pavement of a public street. From first to last, the whole attitude of the people in the Home towards this man was thoroughly disgraceful, and we look to Prebendary Carlile to enforce upon the Committee of the Home the declaration of the coroner's jury that they should for the future "take special precautions to prevent the recurrence of such an incident."

"MAN THE LIFEBOAT!"

MORE HEADQUARTERS' TOMMY-ROT LEADS TO STRIKE.

Another strike of lifeboatmen has occurred at Winterton. It arose in the following way: In response to flares, a launch was made to two ketches which had collided off Palling in the early morning of February 18th. Upon arrival on the scene of distress it was found that the Palling lifeboat was already there, so the Winterton crew returned to shore after an absence of five hours. The following day the coxswain made out his usual claim and forwarded it to headquarters in London—to receive the reply that the claim would be disallowed, the official view being that the Winterton boat should not have been launched. Do the armchair gentlemen who control the fleet of life-savers suppose the Winterton men got out of their beds at two o'clock in the morning and went to sea as a "constitutional"? The crew swear that they will not man their boat until they have been paid for the launch. Good luck to 'em! It is high time that some of the huge sum spent on headquarters was transferred to those who risk their lives bending to the oar.

A Fortune for Nothing! See the Amazing Prize Offer on page 27.

THE TRUTH ABOUT SWEEPSTAKES.

PUTTING THE PRESS RIGHT—REPRESENTATIVE "SWEEPS"—THE TRUE POLICY.

This is the sweepstake season. With the exception of the Football Cup, there has been nothing doing since the big autumn handicaps; but now, with the approach of the Lincolnshire Handicap and the Grand National, the various Continental firms are in full swing once more, and the sporting public is bewildered with a variety of schemes, and is puzzled to know the good from the bad. And then, of course, there is the Derby—in connection with which everybody *will* have a flutter, and which is the *pièce de résistance* of the sweepstake world.

In these circumstances it is not surprising that the general Press should at length have begun to evince some sort of interest in the subject, although, as we shall show, it is lamentably ignorant in regard to it. We need not remind our readers that for some years past we have devoted special attention to the whole question—from both the abstract and the personal point of view. That is to say, we have commented upon the crass stupidity of the Government in not recognising and taking advantage of a magnificent and perfectly legitimate source of revenue; and we have also dealt with the various firms and individuals engaged in the business—the headquarters of which, apart from the famous Calcutta Club, are now in Switzerland. What that glorious little country gains every year as a consequence of its tolerance and broad-mindedness should be a lesson to our legislators. Its postage revenue alone must have trebled or quadrupled itself during the last few years; and there can be no question that when we get the Business Government, and recognise the innate sporting instincts of the community, a new revenue of several millions will flow into the Exchequer—*and, at the same time, the public will be protected against fraud.*

The Press Coming Round.

There are already signs that the Press is coming round to a saner view of the situation. It no longer condemns sweepstakes on so-called moral grounds, and is concerned with the business aspect of them—criticising the safeguards for the interests of the subscribers, but writing in ignorance of the facts. For instance here is the *Daily Mail* telling us that, however reputable may be the persons supervising the Draw—even with "the presence of ten archbishops" (we did not know there were so many), there can be no guarantee that all the tickets sold are placed in the wheel. "For example," says the *Mail*, "out of 50,000 tickets disposed of, the promotors of a sweepstake, if they wished to be dishonest, could suppress the real figures and put the proceeds of, say, 10,000 or 20,000 half-crown or five shilling tickets into their pockets." Our contemporary, however, is unaware of the fact that, to prevent the possibility of such a fraud most of the big firms now run "guaranteed sweeps"—that is to say, the prize-money is in no way dependent upon the amount subscribed. They take the risk of either a profit or a loss. Consequently they have no interest of any kind in keeping tickets out of the Draw. Whether the wheel contains a thousand or a million numbers does not concern or affect them. Strictly speaking, it may be said that a scheme conducted on such lines is not really a "sweepstake," but if we called it a lottery we should shock some of our contemporaries—although, as we have said, they are gradually coming round. For instance, here is the *Pall Mall Gazette*, apropos of a Labour and Trades Union Derby Sweep, asking *why* Trades Unionists should *not* have a "sweep" of their own, and commenting on the present stupid state of our law.

Representative Sweepstakes.

Let us take the principal Continental "Sweeps" in order of date. First, there is the Grand National of Mr. Patrick O'Brien, Lucerne. What possible interest can *he* have in keeping any numbers out of the Draw? He sells books of ten half-crown tickets at £1, but he guarantees prizes to the extent of £10,000, and, in addition, gives £1,000 to English Charities. And then, to prove that he is in a position to pay the money, irrespective of the number of tickets sold, he recently deposited the full amount of the Prizes—£10,000—in a leading London Bank. Of course this step was taken simply as a demonstration of financial strength; and we are not surprised to learn that the money was subsequently transferred. No business man would risk the seizure by the English authorities of money specifically earmarked for the purposes of a Sweepstake. We have only to add that the Draw, which takes place on the 21st inst., will be personally supervised by the Editor of this journal, and that the representatives of *any* responsible newspapers are at liberty to attend.

Then comes the big "John Bull Derby Sweep," run by Messrs. Smallman and Terry, of Geneva. In this case the guaranteed Prize Fund amounts to no less than £50,000—with an addition of £5,000 for Charities, and, as in the case of Patrick O'Brien, the full amount of the prize money—£50,000—was temporarily lodged with a branch of the London City and Midland Bank. Here again, the tickets are sold either singly, at 2s. 6d. each, or in books of 10 at £1; but whatever may be the number disposed of, the full amount of the prize money has to be paid. What interest, therefore, has the firm—and we apologise for the hypothesis—in keeping back any of the tickets from the Draw? Has the *Daily Mail*, or any other paper, ever received a complaint respecting this firm? We have vouched, again and again, for its integrity, and having supervised the drawing in connection with several of its sweepstakes, we have no hesitation in saying that its honour is above suspicion. Is it any wonder that the Sweepstakes of this firm are gradually replacing those of the Calcutta Club?

One more instance will suffice—the Derby Sweep of the Turf Pool Syndicate, of Geneva. Here, too, the prizes are guaranteed, and are, therefore, independent of the amount subscribed. £35,000 has to be paid out in any event—and, as the Editor is to be present at the Draw, subscribers may be assured that this will be done, be the amount of subscriptions what it may.

The True Policy.

We have thus shown that the criticisms of the *Mail*, so far as the principal Sweeps are concerned, fall utterly to the ground, and we would venture to suggest that, instead of casting wholesale suspicion upon the businesses of reputable and honourable firms, our powerful contemporary should join with us in an appeal to the Government to avail itself of a profitable source of income by officially recognising and regulating *bona fide* lotteries and sweepstakes—and thus, in addition to bringing an enormous income to the Post Office, safeguarding the public against the depredations of unscrupulous Continental adventurers, who, trading upon the reputations for fair dealing of such firms as we have mentioned, take advantage of the stupidity of our laws to line their pockets by means of bogus schemes.

A FIENDISH BOOK FOR CHILDREN.

MORE ABOUT FATHER FURNISS'S "SIGHT OF HELL."

The *Christian Commonwealth* is rather late in the day in calling attention to that "book for children," *The Sight of Hell*, published, *permissu superiorum*, at Dublin, by James Duffy and Co., Ltd., the author being the Rev. J. Furniss, C.Ss.R. Months ago we quoted identical extracts from this abominable, fiendish work, expressing the opinion that, if the author and publisher got their deserts, they would be whipped through the public streets. The Vigilance Society of Dublin also exists, *permissu superiorum*—the Roman Catholic Archbishop being, we believe, at its head. The object of this concern is to boycott and put pressure on newsagents who dare to sell English Sunday and other publications—we are of the number—which do not accord with the narrow prejudices of the ecclesiastical hierarchy in that city; yet this atrocious book for children is on sale there under the high auspices of the Roman Catholic Church, and, so far as we can ascertain, there has not been so much as one bleat of protest. "Perhaps at this moment, seven o'clock in the evening, a child is just going into hell. To-morrow evening at seven o'clock, go and knock at the gates of hell and ask what the child is doing. The devils will go and look. Then they will come back and say, "The child is burning." Go in a week and ask what the child is doing; you will get the same answer, "It is burning." Go in a million of years and ask the same question; the answer is just the same—"It is burning." So if you go for ever and ever you will always get the same answer—"It is burning in the fire."

Slandering the Divine Mercy.

We say the priest who writes this, this man Furniss, is a devil in thought and idea himself; indeed, there is no fiend in any hell so fiendish as his fiendish imagination conceives the devils of his theological hell to be. Is this damnable religious lie—this frightful travesty of the abounding mercy of God—a fit book for little children? Isn't it a book which any parent would shudder to put in the hands of his little ones? The Right Rev. Dr. Walsh, Archbishop of Dublin, must know all about it. It cannot have been in existence all this time, *permissu superiorum*, in his diocese without his knowledge and the knowledge of his clergy. What has the Vigilance Society done about it? Have they boycotted the people who sell it? Have they exercised pressure to prevent its circulation? And what has the Archbishop done about it, personally? Has he denounced it from his Cathedral pulpit? Has he issued a Pastoral to his clergy that they are to keep the awful thing out of the hands of children? Has he put it on his official *Index Prohibitorum* with those other wicked publications, the Sunday newspapers and John Bull? The *Christian Commonwealth* says the book ought to be suppressed by law. It cannot be suppressed by law, but it ought to be suppressed by the instincts of Christian love, which we have always thought as common to Roman Catholics as to other religious communities. If the Rev. J. Furniss, C.Ss.R., could light the fires of Smithfield again, they would be as nothing to the everlasting torments of the burning hell to which he has consigned the children. "Listen," says he again, "there is a sound just like a kettle boiling. Is it really a kettle boiling? No; the blood is boiling in the scalded veins of that boy. The brain is boiling and bubbling over in his head. . . ." Think of it. Think of any human creature, "made in the image of God," sitting down calmly in his study and writing, in the name of religion, this lying horror for little children; or another human creature, made likewise, scattering it broadcast by his presses; and when you have done thinking, ask yourself whether it is not one of which any priest, or any Church, ought to be ashamed.

"Suffer the Little Children to Come Unto Me."

We implore this Redemptionist Father to think of the meaning of the letters attached to his name—C.Ss.R.—*Congregatis Sanctissimi Redemptoris*. He who took the little children unto His arms and blessed them had no threats for the fair and tender creatures so fresh from the hands of their Maker.

SHACKLED SERFS.

DYING FATHER'S WISHES FLOUTED.

As we have more than once insisted, the perpetration of petty crime is by no means the sole pretext for the committal of children to Industrial Schools. Juvenile criminals comprise but a fraction of the Industrial Schools' population. Under the provisions of the notorious Children Act of 1908, Justices are empowered to commit to these institutions any children who from one cause or another are likely to fall under evil influences, or to become destitute and chargeable to the rates; and even before the passing of this Act magistrates were armed with somewhat similar, though less extensive, powers. Upon such a pretext, George Miles, a London lad, was sent some years ago, upon the death of his mother, to the Herefordshire and District Working Boys' Home, and subsequently "licensed" to indentured labour at a farm near Llandilo, South Wales. The father of the boy, who at the time of his committal was unable to guarantee his proper maintenance, has now fallen seriously ill, and is not expected to recover. The dying man has repeatedly expressed a wish to take a last farewell of his youngest son, whom he has not seen since the committal to the Herefordshire school. Eager to gratify her father's natural desire, a sister of the boy recently addressed a letter to him at the Welsh farm, acquainting him of her father's condition and requesting him to come to London, if only for a day. In reply the lad has written to say that he is bound to his employer and dare not leave the farm without his permission. Such leave of absence has apparently been refused. Three times the sister has written, and each letter has evoked a similar response. Here are one or two phrases from the boy's letters:—

> I am very sorry to say that I cannot come up. I tried my best, but I cannot help it.
>
> I told my master all about it, and he is not willing for me to come. He says it is not time for holidays now.
>
> I told my master what you said, but he is not at all willing for me to come home.

The words are those of a serf who dare not stir save as his owner may dictate. The unhappy boy is on the verge of manhood—eighteen years old last month—out the effect of Industrial School incarceration, aggravated by farm servitude, is too often to crush the very instincts of liberty. Many of these lads appear to be in mortal terror of their employers, to whose tender mercies they have been shamefully abandoned. In the present instance there is no sort of legal restraint upon the boy's movements. The control of the school officials ceases at the age of eighteen, while with his employer the lad has never entered into a free contract of labour. How many of these drudges, we wonder, are similarly held to their slavery by an ignorant terror of the law?

COALOWNERS AND CONSCIENCE.

DEFENCELESS WIDOW OBTAINS RESPITE.

Our readers may remember the sad case of Joseph Cockburn, a miner in the employ of the Ashington Coal Company, Limited, who became seriously illl through the presence of noxious fumes in the pit, and subsequently committed suicide in a fit of insanity.

Cockburn failed to obtain compensation from the Company, in respect of his illness, and his widow is thus left in grievously straitened circumstances. It is distressing to learn that the poor woman has recently been harassed by the agent of the colliery proprietors, having been served with a notice threatening ejectment from her cottage, which is the property of the Company. We are assured that Mrs. Cockburn had done her level best to secure accommodation elsewhere, but there is a lamentable dearth of suitable cottages in the vicinity, and her quest has so far proved unavailing. We are glad to learn that at the last moment the Company relented. In any event, we fancy the Magistrates would have been loth to issue an Order. It was hardly credible that the Company should be willing to incur the odium of such proceedings, in view of the graceless fashion in which they shirked their earlier liability.

"Bullets," Over £5,000 Cash and other Prizes to be Won This Week. See page 38.

AN UNJUST JUSTICE.

THREE DAYS' GAOL THROUGH MAGISTRATE'S FAULT.

Among minor offences known to the law is that of leaving horses unattended upon a common highway. Of this affront to public order a carman named Thomas Weer was recently guilty, but there were extenuating circumstances in his case which might well have tempered the rigour of vengeful justice. Weer had been commissioned to remove the household effects of a clergyman at Ongar, Essex, but on arrival with his van at the parsonage he found that the goods were not yet made ready for his attentions. In these circumstances, he locked the wheels of his van, put nosebags on his horses, and repaired to a neighbouring coffee house for light refreshment.

At this juncture P.-c. A. H. Wood, of the Essex County Constabulary, appeared upon the scene. Judging by the particularity of his evidence at the subsequent police court proceedings, this worthy officer appears to have carefully timed the duration of the van horses' unattended meal. For half an hour they wantonly munched their oats in the very eye of the law. At length the carman returned, and the constable retired to report his observations.

In due course a summons was issued and served upon Weer, who resides at Notting Hill. Anxious, if possible, to avoid a special journey to Ongar, the defendant addressed a polite letter to the Bench, expressing regret for his negligence and affirming his willingness to pay any fine which their Worships might see fit to impose. Unhappily, this missive appears to have been delayed in transmission. When the case was called, there was no message from the absent defendant, and a warrant for his arrest was promptly issued. In due course Weer was laid by the heels, conveyed to Ongar, and lodged in durance vile. Three days elapsed before the next sitting of the Court, and for this period the luckless defendant remained in the fastness of the cells.

Up to this point the incident might perhaps be considered the unfortunate but inevitable result of an accidental circumstance beyond the control of the authorities. By later disclosures at the Police Court, however, the matter was placed in a far graver light. It then transpired that Weer's letter of apology had been received by the Clerk shortly after the rising of the Court three days before. This gentleman had despatched it without delay to Mr. F. Carter, J.P., who had sat upon the Bench that morning, together with a suggestion that the warrant for Weer's arrest should be withdrawn, and a small fine imposed in respect of his misconduct. For some reason best known to himself, Mr. Carter ignored this very proper recommendation, and directed that the warrant should take its course. Commenting upon these revelations, the Chairman of the Bench remarked, "It seems like a miscarriage of justice for a man to go to prison for an offence for which he ought only to have been fined." We agree, and we insist that no such miscarriage of justice would have occurred in this case but for the inexplicable obstinacy of Mr. F. Carter, J.P. In virtually apologising for the conduct of his brother Magistrate, the Chairman thought fit to dismiss the defendant with a fine of one shilling, remitting the costs of the Court. We submit that, in view of these and other circumstances which have been brought to our notice, Mr. Carter should lose no time in retiring from the Bench, where his continued presence can only be an abiding menace to the interests of justice.

A CORRECTION.

In our issue of November 1st, 1913, we published an article under the heading "Behind the Screens—Telling the Old, Old Story." In the course of this we commented adversely upon the business methods of the "Round London Publishing Company" (a business of which we understand the proprietor is Mr. Bertram Augustus McCave). We are now satisfied that Mr. McCave is carrying on a *bona fide* business and in fact has paid his rent to the Cinema Hall. We are glad to take this opportunity of removing from the minds of our readers any wrong impression that may have been caused by our classing Mr. McCave with those firms whose methods we have from time to time exposed.

A WOMAN'S EXPERIENCE IN CANADA.

HOW THE GREAT EMIGRATION LIE IS WORKED.

By A Nurse in Toronto.

John Bull would be doing a great blessing if it could only convince the public how Canada is over-rated. To-day in Toronto, with a temperature 25° below zero, there are over 25,000 men out of work, to say nothing of women. In my opinion the State ought to take the place of the shipping agents, who tell the most awful lies to get people to come out. Before doing so I made inquiries and got advice from almost every shipping agent and others who were only supposed to have the interest of the intended emigrant at heart. Well, I am a hospital-trained nurse, and was assured I could earn from £3 to £5 per week. The agents saw the credentials I was coming out with, and promised me if I booked through them they would, upon landing, introduce me to doctors and superintendents of institutions. I did so, booking second class and sparing no expense.

The only introduction I had was to an agency. I called upon the lady after being here a week; that was the second week in August. She said there was nothing doing in the way of nursing, but if I would call the end of September or beginning of October the residents would be back in Toronto. I wrote enclosing a stamped envelope, but got no reply; then I called upon the lady. She was all smiles but when I said I had called with Miss ——'s introduction she almost slammed the door in my face. So I said, "I am a stranger in this country and alone. Can you tell me of any other place where I can get work? I don't mind what it is outside nursing." Her reply was, "I don't know anybody else's business but my own," and the door slammed.

I came out here with £20 in cash and about £40 of valuables, and to-day I am sitting in a miserable attic, awaiting replies to applications for work of any kind, for I can turn my hands to anything, even to washing and baking bread, to say nothing of household work. For the sake of my fellow countrywomen, cannot something be done to keep them in our own country? Don't think I have been idle all this time; I have washed, scrubbed, cooked and done all the work of the general servant and charwoman, but the Canadians hate us, and only care for us in the way of making slaves of us.

VERY UN-SATIS-FACTORY.

HOW "WORD-MAKING" INCREASES "LANGUAGE."

Some of those who participated in the recent "word-making" competition run by a man named C. J. Smith, of 59a—or 59-61—New Oxford Street, London, W.C., describing himself as the "Proprietor of 'Satis' Health Food," have legitimate grounds for complaint. In the first place, the time for sending in lists was very unfairly extended for fifteen days, thus enlarging the number of competitors for the prizes, to the prejudice of entrants who had complied with the original conditions, and at the same time doubtless bringing a considerable further quantity of "grist" to Mr. Smith's mill, for every list had to be accompanied with a coupon cut from a 1s. 3d. tin of his food. The result of the competition was announced on January 24th—but though six weeks has elapsed, some of the prize-winners have not obtained their money. One winner of 10s. received a month ago the following communication from Mr. Smith:—

> On account of two competitors demanding a scrutiny of the lists, I have been unable to despatch the prizes. The judges' report is expected daily, and as soon as it comes to hand I will despatch the winners' cheques. It is not anticipated that the prize list will be altered, and even if it is, you are assured of yours.

The "judges report" is enormously overdue; whilst as the person to whom the letter is addressed is "assured" of his prize, could not Mr. Smith in the meantime find the half sovereign to satisfy the legitimate claim? His extraordinary delay in fulfilling his obligations is, we are afraid, causing the winners to feel "fed up" with his food, and to use words which would not be allowed in the competition.

"Bullets," Over 5,000 Cash and Other Prizes to be Won This Week. See page 38.

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Last week a scene of revelry
The Albert Hall aroused,
Where, full of fun and devilry,
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Illustrious in their line,
Clasp hands upon the Ulster oath,
Which hundreds haste to sign.

The Duchess calls for women's aid
In her new policy,
Which is, to shortly make a raid
Upon the L.C.C.

Our rare, refreshing fruiterer
Must summon all his wit,
If he much longer would defer
The service of a writ

"A MAN'S A MAN FOR A' THAT."

NO PESTILENTIAL PESSIMISM AT PORTSMOUTH.

The evidence of Dr. Lysander Maybury, the Police Surgeon at Portsmouth, in the case of Summersgill *v.* the Portsmouth Guardians, at the Hants Assizes, was very interesting, Summersgill being an ex-storekeeper and assistant master claiming superannuation allowance after his suspension and the termination of his services by the Guardians on account of alleged inability to perform his duties. Medical evidence was called to show that Summersgill was a broken man physically and mentally, that his memory was defective, that he had been in an asylum for a year, that he had thinned down from 16 st. to 12 st., that he was flat-footed due to loss of muscular tone, that he had nasal hæmorrhage, that he had "a slapping second beat of the aortic valve," that he had double hernia, that he had varicose veins too bad for operation, that his eyes bore signs of premature old age, and that he was absent-minded. This seems a rather formidable load of physical and mental defects. But Dr. Maybury is an expert, and described him as "capable, fairly healthy, but not active." This, too, was the view of the jury, for they gave a verdict for the plaintiff, presumably in token of their high appreciation of the Doctor's faith in the staying qualities of the British race. We are afraid, however, that the recent case would not enhance his prospects of an appointment as medical assessor for an Insurance Company.

A CONNUBIAL COUPLE.

YANKEE ADVENTURESS'S MATRIMONIAL SQUABBLE.

We have had a good deal to say lately with reference to the adventuress calling herself Rex Powel Du Rand, and a letter written by her from the Hotel Seville, New York, on October 1st last, will prove of interest. It is intimately addressed to "My dear ——," somebody whom the artful dame has apparently bamboozled with her blarney, and runs:—

> Your letter to hand this morning. Thank you very much *re* Nanny. I have written to get her stopped. Yes, I expect Tommy is pretty mad because I am not doing quite what he expected. I am looking after myself a bit this time. I cabled money to him, so he will be all right, and I am not sending to Edgar. I am getting things straight here, but it is taking me a little longer than expected, and Tommy acting the fool as usual, cabling here to people not to believe me, that he is *not married*. Of course I am just showing them he is married. I am going to Boston on Friday, then on to Montana. I expect there will be "Hail Columbia!" when I get there.

The details of this domestic squabble were doubtless very diverting. "Tommy" is, of course, Courtland Du Rand—and "Edgar" is a professional man. "Nanny" is, we believe, the poor woman who worked for so long a period for the plausible cheat, and of whom the fascinator borrowed her last penny—then throwing her into the street. Mrs. Du Rand will get a warm welcome if ever she returns to these shores. Any claimant can have the letter on satisfying us that he is the person for whom it is intended.

£500 for 3 Smart Words. See "Bullets." page 38.

KUBELIK'S ADVICE TO MUSICIANS.

How to Obtain a Perfect Command of Technique Without Years of Drudgery.

GREAT OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL PIANISTS, VIOLINISTS & 'CELLISTS

A great opportunity is now given to all pianists, violinists, and 'cellists, and lovers of music.

It is an opportunity to obtain a perfect command of technique without the years of drudgery and soul-wearying hours of practising scales and arpeggi that have hitherto been essential.

Indeed, by following this wonderful method the musician gains more from 10 minutes' exercise than he has hitherto been able to gain from hours of continuous practice. What is the object of continuous practice, this endless repetition of scales and exercises which hitherto the musician has had to submit himself to?

It is simply to render supple and flexible the nerves and muscles of the arm, the hand, and the fingers, and to give them strength and accuracy.

These results must be secured if the musician is to improve his technique and obtain a complete mastery of his instrument.

Paganini's Technique.

"Paganini's command of technique," says the great violinist Kubelik, "which so astonished the world in his day that it was attributed to the influence of the Evil One, must now be considered part of the equipment of every modern virtuoso."

"*I make this statement,*" he concludes, "*simply to illustrate the advance made in the science of the art.*"

So great is this advance that it is now recognised that the hand and arm and fingers can be trained to all that extraordinary degree of suppleness and responsiveness required for the possession of a perfect technique without the hours and years of weary drudging practice hitherto considered necessary.

Scientific training is rapidly replacing the drudgery of scales and arpeggi practice. By ten minutes' practice every day, away from the instrument, musicians are now being enabled to quadruple their executive ability and to acquire a perfect technique.

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The method which is bringing about this great revolution in musical education is entitled the "Cowling" System, a discovery which has won the praise of musicians in every part of the world.

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Before taking up your method I was in despair over the weakness of my fourth finger on left hand, and when I wanted to play B natural on the E string I always used to take that note in the third position, but now I can stretch with ease up to C natural on the same string. If violinists only knew the benefit to be derived from your methods I feel sure they would one and all avail themselves of your generous offer. I found the lesson on the Vibrato very interesting, and will have great pleasure in recommending your methods to all instrumentalists.—CAPTAIN F. POTTS, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

FROM A PIANIST.

I wish to acknowledge the great benefit I have derived from your course of finger development. My only regret is that I did not take it up some years ago, as it would have saved me a great amount of drudgery. The thumb and fourth finger exercises I consider invaluable.—C. GAMBLER, Tottenham.

STUMBLING-BLOCK REMOVED.

I would like to say that your system has far exceeded my expectations, and since I first took lessons on the 'cello have never received such excellent results with so little study. My third finger in particular, which has always been a stumbling-block, is so far improved as to be worth the whole cost of the lessons. Wishing you every success in your undertaking.—P. JACKSON, Liverpool, 'Cellist.

FINGERING IMPROVED.

The lessons you have already sent me for my son have improved his fingering wonderfully. Although so young (13) he seems to master his studies easier and to play in all positions much better. I have had over 20 years' experience with music and think your system a great blessing to violinists.—W MARSH, Barrow.

A PIANIST'S PRAISE.

I am glad to testify that after taking your course of lessons my pianoforte playing has improved quite 500 per cent., and I can attack difficult pieces and play them in a way I never dreamed of. They are invaluable, and worth a great deal more than the fee charged.—ALAN DEMERI Ealing.

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The improvement in my left hand is wonderful. I have gained an independent use of each finger that I have never known before. What I used to regard as difficult fingering is now quite simple, and I am practising music which a month ago I thought I should never touch.—A. W. JENNINGS, London, W., Violinist.

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A proportion of the half-fee enrolments will be reserved for readers of JOHN BULL who reside abroad, and allowance will be made for the length of time which must elapse in certain cases before applications can reach us.

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BULLYING BAILIFFS.

TRADER'S PAINFUL EXPERIENCE.

Apropos of our frequent references to the easy manners of licensed bailiffs, a reader relates an unhappy experience. In 1906, our correspondent purchased a house and shop, obtaining a mortgage of £400 from a local Court of the Ancient Order of Foresters. Commencing business in the new premises, the purchaser unhappily encountered a series of reverses, and was hard put to it to sustain the periodical repayments required by the Society's rules. He at length determined to dispose of the property, but it was not easy to find a buyer, and his mortgage contributions fell somewhat into arrears. Ultimately, however, a likely purchaser was discovered, and a provisional agreement reached. The purchase price fixed would have enabled our correspondent to discharge his obligation to the Society.

The proposed transaction enjoyed the full approval of the local officers of the Society, and it is hard to account for their subsequent action. They first ordered our correspondent to give up the premises two clear days before the date provisionally fixed for the transfer of possession, coupling their command with a threat of forcible ejectment. For this high-handed procedure no sound reasons were advanced. Thinking that the prospective purchaser had perhaps withdrawn, our informant presented the name of another possible buyer with whom, in the interval, he had been in negotiation. It was to no purpose. A day later three bailiffs appeared upon the scene with instructions to recover possession of the premises.

These gentry, who were, it is said, in an advanced state of intoxication, appear to have committed grave irregularities, of which the Secretary of the local Court was apparently a witness. So coarse and violent was their behaviour that they ultimately earned the attention of a passing constable, who effected their temporary arrest. Explanations being tendered, however, they were presently released, whereupon they again attempted a forcible entry of our correspondent's premises. The neighbours seem to have rallied to his assistance, however, and the bailiffs were beaten off.

The part played in this sorry fiasco by the officers of the Society passes understanding. The names of two likely purchasers were before them and there would seem to be no excuse for their harsh and inconsiderate action. We cannot think their conduct will be condoned by the general membership of the local Court, to whom it will doubtless be reported. As for the bailiffs, their drunkenness and violence merit the severest censure, and should incur sharp punishment. If, as is probable, they are licensed by the County Court or employed by a person so licensed, their conduct should be fully reported to the judge.

WONDERS NEVER CEASE.

THE MIRACLE OF THE £1,000 AND THE MULTITUDE.

An astonishing misconception would appear to have arisen in the minds of some of the entrants in a competition run by a concern styling itself "Camaraderie," of 7, Aldgate Avenue, E.C., and it is necessary for us to state that the firm and its competition are quite unconnected with this journal, and that we in no way vouch for them—especially as the results have been of an almost incredible nature. For instance, a prize of £500 was offered for naming the winners of ten matches in the first round of the English Cup Ties. The firm's award stated that so many sent in correct coupons that those who had been eagerly anticipating receiving the £500 were entitled to two shillings only, but that it had been generously decided to increase the amount to two-and-sixpence. This, of course, meant that five thousand persons were skilful enough to give absolutely correct results! As probably at least ten times this number forwarded forecasts containing one or more errors, the firm must have made an enormous profit, as every effort had to be accompanied by a coupon taken from a 1s. 3d. box of its cigarettes.

The number of matches was raised to twelve, and the prize to £1,000, but even more succeeded in "doing the trick." Those who gave the dozen results received 3s. 3d.—thus indicating that they numbered over 6,000.

Shades of Mr. Hogge!

DOING THE DOUBLE.

FINSBURY PARK FAKER'S TRITE TRICK.

A Mrs. Clara Slater, of "Belgrano," Finsbury Park, N., advertises, in an exceedingly repulsive way, that she has a cure for those of her sex suffering from "female weakness" and other ailments of which we will spare our readers the catalogue. The trade must evidently be a profitable one, for she is able to announce in the *Wrexham Advertiser* and the *Aberdare and Mountain Ash Express*—by means of an illustrated advertisement which is calculated to bring the colour to the cheek of even a "man of the world"—that she visits Merthyr, Aberdare, Wrexham, and Oswestry, when local sufferers may obtain advice free. We should be loth, however, to recommend any of our women readers to take her advice, even on those terms. As in many other things, such counsel is doubtless worth what is paid for it—in this case it probably is that some appliance should be purchased from her. For one thing, we have no confidence in her abilities, miraculous though she claims them to be. In the Wrexham paper her announcement runs: "Read these local testimonials," followed by four letters which she describes as "Wrexham Evidence," "Marchwiel Lady's Testimony," "A Gwersyllt Letter," "A Local Lady's Gratitude," and "A Wrexham Letter"—in no case is name or address given. In the Aberdare journal the very same five flowery communications are reproduced word for word, and are again described as "Local Testimony," but in this case they are headed respectively "Troedyrhiw Testimonial," "Further Merthyr Evidence," "Aberdare Letter," "Mountain Ash Testimonial," and "Merthyr Evidence"!

The Finsbury Park faker should be more careful, though she probably never anticipated that the same person would get hold of copies of papers published so far apart.

OLD FRIENDS AT ANTWERP.

THE ENGLISHMAN'S FAREWELL TO HIS STEED.

It's jolly when you go abroad if suddenly you meet
And recognise an English friend in some old foreign street.
You'll meet one outside Antwerp, and you'll think you know his name,
Till you find yourself corrected—there they call him "England's Shame."

Years back, when he was younger, he had shown you lots of fun;
Together you had led the field through many a stiffish run;
The pace he went, the things he'd jump, were better left untold.
You used to boast your old white horse was worth his weight in gold.

Too old for work; sold for a song; shaken and bruised and sore,
The faithful friend who'd carried you through those good runs of yore
Amongst this miserable crew you did not think to find,
Bound for the sausage factory, still to the front—stone blind!

They know not what awaits them, what's the prize their life has won,
These hungry, thirsty, suffering beasts, whose work on earth is done.
Are there no graves in England? Don't you think that you're to blame
As slow half-dead processions pass, parading England's shame?

The lamb is born for market, the pig but grows to fry.
The cattle on the pastureland eat grass until they die;
But the horse, who shares the sport of Kings, a noble horse to send
To foreigners for sausages!—*he who was once your friend!*

Violet O'Connor.

Don't Forget the Pen Coupon on page iii of cover.

Would your employer miss you?

If you resigned or were dismissed? A question of the greatest importance to anyone in business.

If you gave your employer notice to-morrow, what would he say? Would he try and keep you on at any price, even at a much larger salary, or would he think that your leaving would not matter, and that your place could be easily filled?

Or suppose business was bad and the staff had to be reduced to save expense, would the manager say of you: "I think we had better get rid of So-and-So," or would he say: "I can't lose him. He's too useful to the business."

The Question of your Success.

Just consider for a moment which it would be. For however good business may be, even if the staff is being increased every day, the answer to that question *must* affect your future. If you can make yourself so valuable to your business that they cannot afford to lose you, you are well on the road to real success. In fact, you must do it if you wish to succeed to-day. Never before was competition so keen; never before were there so many clerks wanting positions, capable clerks many of them, hard-working, neat, willing, clever at figures, and of good appearance, yet out of a situation, or in a position that brings them in nothing but a bare living.

Indispensable to your Business.

No! If you want to succeed, if you want to make yourself indispensable to your business, you must be more than a clerk, however capable and clever, you must be a real business man, with the wide knowledge on all points of business that only comes from long experience.

A Substitute for Experience.

"But how," you will ask, "can I get that experience without spending the best years of my life in the task?" A few years ago you would have had no alternative, but now there is a way whereby you can get the fruits of the experience of the greatest and most successful business men in the country. These men will help you to answer every business question and to solve every business difficulty from bookkeeping to window-dressing and from advertising to conducting a case in the County Court.

And the men who will help you include Richard Burbidge, the Managing Director of Harrod's, Ltd.; and Sir Thomas Dewar, the Managing Director of J. Dewar and Sons Ltd.; H. Gordon Selfridge, who has startled London by the great increase to the mammoth store of Selfridge's, Ltd.; and John Lawrie, Managing Director of the great firm of William Whiteley, Ltd.; Sir Joseph Lyons, Managing Director of J. Lyons and Co., Ltd.; and J. H. Rosenthal, Managing Director of the great firm of Babcock and Willcox, Ltd.; and Wareham Smith, Advertising Director of the *Daily Mail*; and A. W. Gamage, who built his present huge business from a little one-man shop; and Joseph Fels, the millionaire Soap Maker; and J. Murray Allison, Advertisement Manager of *The Times*; H. Simonis, Director of the *Daily News and Leader*, and many more equally famous and equally successful.

And the way you can get the benefit of these men's knowledge is by getting the "Business Encyclopædia" and by referring to it whenever a business difficulty faces you. Whatever your difficulty, however hard it seems, you will be able to solve it by the advice given in the "Business Encyclopædia." For it is written by men who have solved similar difficulties themselves, including all those mentioned above, and many more besides, whose names will be sent free upon request.

Is it any wonder, then, that over 80,000 successful business men and great business firms are already using the work? Can there be any doubt that you will be better able to succeed if you also have it by your side to give you advice in your difficulties and to lend you confidence in your decisions?

How it Concerns you.

Whatever line of business you are in, whatever position you occupy in it, this work can prove invaluable to you if you will use it right. If you want to know about any point in book-keeping, the "Business Encyclopædia" will tell you. If you want to know about drawing up a balance-sheet, or a profit and loss account, you will find it here. If you want to know the law as it affects your own particular calling, if you want to know anything about manufacturing, if you want to learn all about loose leaf and card index systems, you can learn it here. You can learn, in fact, of any and every subject connected with business. Surely you realise the help this knowledge would mean.

A Situation at £200 a Year.

Moreover, if you own the "Business Encyclopædia" you can enter for the position offered by Messrs. A. W. Gamage, Limited, the famous Holborn outfitters, who require a man or woman for a responsible position in their firm, and who know that the person who owns and studies the "Business Encyclopædia" is the best possible man or woman for the post. The position carries a commencing salary of £200 a year, and will be filled by competitive examination. Full particulars will be sent free on receipt of the form below. There is no entrance fee, and a number of other prizes are offered, from £100 in cash downwards.

TWO OPINIONS.

Sir C. W. Macara, President of the Federation of Master Cotton Spinners' Association, Manchester:

"It contains a vast amount of information of the utmost value to business men, and have already found it most useful."

Mr. M. T. Knightbridge, Clerk, Billericay, Essex:

"I am sure I shall never repent purchasing the 'Business Encyclopædia.' It is a good investment for any business man, and to the young man with ambition to succeed it is indispensable."

A FREE BOOK.

This coupon entitles you to one free copy of the book describing the "Business Encyclopædia," but it must be sent at once. It tells all about the work and the specially low terms to readers of John Bull, who can obtain the complete work for a first payment of 1s. 6d. only, paying the balance in small monthly payments.

To the Caxton Publishing Co., Ltd.,
54, Surrey Street, London, W.C.

Please send me one complimentary copy of the book on the "Business Encyclopædia." Also particulars of the Gamage situation.

Name .....
(Send this form or a postcard.)

Address .....

.....

"THE GREATEST OF THESE —"

HUMAN DOCUMENTS.

[On this page every week we publish particulars of human derelicts whose cases, after full investigation, we are able to recommend to the charity of our readers. We are happy to say that in this way we have already been the means of bringing comfort into many a wretched home. All amounts subscribed are duly acknowledged, and no deduction of any kind is made by us.]

CCCI.—BACK FROM THE GOLDEN WEST.

Have any of our readers any use for a young fellow, 24 years of age, who has had his left leg and part of his right foot amputated? It is a curious question to ask, but the fact of the matter is a man must work to live—and even a mutilated one sometimes prefers this world to the next. In 1910, he was sent at his own request to Canada by the West Ham Emigration Committee; and upon landing in that land of profuse promise and poor performance, he obtained work on a farm. He retained this situation for nine months; when the slack time came he was told to "get." He next was on a small ranch, where he contracted fever and had to go into hospital. Once out of "dock," he obtained another job with a lumber company, and, as the winter was coming on he asked for an advance on account of wages, so that he could purchase mittens for his hands and warm boots for his feet. This very reasonable request was refused, though the cold in Canada is sometimes such as no European can conceive—for instance, a Toronto correspondent, writing as late in the winter season as February 17th, says that on some of the then recent days it was 20 degrees below zero—52 degrees of frost! "If you have to go down town," he tells us, "you have to take a tram, or chance your nose, ears and hands." What such weather means to a man who has to work in the open, ill-fed and ill-clad, is beyond expression. He stuck it the whole of one day in the deadening cold during which his feet got gradually frozen. When the gang knocked off to return to camp, he was compelled to lag behind. Feeling his strength deserting him, he called out to his mates, who were mostly French Canadians, but they did not hear him. Night came on and he sank exhausted. A search party subsequently found him, and obtained medical attendance. His boots—such as they were—had to be cut off his feet, and then snow was rubbed into the bare flesh. The camp doctor, seeing it was a serious case, had the poor fellow removed to the hospital; this necessitated a long drive, and then a train journey of 120 miles. The hospital doctors amputated the left leg, and took a slice off the right foot also—after which they got him fit to travel as expeditiously as possible. In the meantime, the good, kind lumber company made provision for compensation by sending the hat round amongst the man's late chums in the camp. These rough and ready fellows responded generously, collecting £20. Then the sufferer was put on board ship, consigned to the home of his father in West Ham—and there he is to-day. Still, he is not downhearted! He is fixed up with wooden limbs, and a Poor Law officer tells us that he can get about fairly well on them; but he wants work. Perhaps Mr. Obed Smith could fix him up with a job as porter at the Emigration Office, Charing Cross, or employ him to lecture on the advantages of Canada?

CCCII. A SOLDIER'S WIDOW.

When Private Sullivan, of the Leinster Regiment, died ten years ago he left a widow and three children—a girl, aged 18, now in hospital, and two boys of 16 and 13—totally unprovided for. That wasn't his fault. Since that time Mrs. Sullivan, with true soldierly spirit, has struggled gamely along and maintained herself and her offspring by the sweat of her brow—in other words, she has kept her little flock together by going out charing. It has been a hard battle for the brave woman, but now, through illness, she has got into arrears with her rent and other little items, and her prospects for the future look very black indeed. A little financial assistance will enable the poor creature to move from the small village in Ireland, in which she now lives, to some place offering a better prospect of employment to herself and elder son. Who will help her to do this?

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

We have received the following, which we have duly forwarded to the subjects of the "Human Documents" named:—

CCLXXXVII.—"Three Dreadnoughts, Canada," 4s.

CCXC.—F.R.H.S., £1; E. H., parcel.

CCXCII.—"Sevenoaks," 2s.; F. D., 1s. 6d.; A. E. B., 1s. 6d.; D. U., 2s. 6d.; "Dernente s," 10s.; "Ladysmith," 6d.; "Fair-play," 6d.; "Ferret," 1s.; J. R. (Belfast), 5s.; H. N. (Cheapside), £1; A. W., 10s.; V. K., 2s. 6d.; H. H., 10s.; E. A. R., 2s. 9d.; Miss F. E. G., 2s. 6d.; "An Old Reader," 1s.; Mrs. L. M., 10s.; W. G. K. (Natal), 5s.

CCXCIV.—C. E. H., 6d.; A. B., 1s. 6d.; Mrs. L. M., 10s.

CCXCV.—A. W. K. B., 2s. 6d.; A. J. W., 5s.; E. C. H., 1s.; "Beaumont," 3s.; M. W., 1s.; "Grimsby Reader," 1s.; "Anonymous" (Bracebridge) and "Anonymous" (Edinburgh), parcels; A. E. (Tiverton), 1s.; R. W., 1s.; "Sympathisers," 2s. 6d.; "For the Kiddies Sake," 6d.; "Oscar and Tidge," 1s.; T. E. W., 1s. 6d.; "Lank," 1s. 4d.

CCXCVI.—H. R., 1s.; A. W. K. B., 2s. 6d.; E. C. H., 1s.; Mrs. G., parcel; G. R., 2s. 6d.; R. W., 1s.; "Grimsby Reader," 1s.; "Sympathiser," 2s. 6d.; "Heartfelt," 1s.; T. E. W., 1s. 6d.; "Lank," 1s. 4d.

CCXCVII.—B. M. M., 5s.; A. A., 2s.; M. V. J., 2s. 6d.; "Ivor and Winifred," 4s. 6d.; H. R., 1s.; E. E. H., 1s.; Mrs. P. D., "Anonymous" (Deal) and "Sidra," parcels; "Grimsby Reader," 1s.; R. W., 1s.; T. E. W., 2s.; "Fearlach," 2s.; "In His Name," 6d.; H. N. G., 2s. 6d.; "Humanity," 2s. "Oscar and Tidge," 1s.; "Lank," 1s. 4d.; "Jane," 2s.

CCXCVIII.—"Ivy Mary," 2s. 6d.; A. W., 10s.; "Anonymous" (Walsall), parcel; E. M. H., 5d.; "Chiswick," 1s. 6d.; "Birthday," 1s.; F. L., 2s. 6d.; "Won 58," 6d.; W. F., 6s. 8d.; "Solomon Moses," 7s.

CCXCIX.—"Ivy Mary," 2s. 6d.; Mrs. M., 2s.; "Anonymous," "Ponica," parcels; "Chriswick," 6d.; W. J. H., 2s. 6d.; L. M., 2s. 6d.; "Ex Royal Marine," 2s. 6d.; "Caretaker," 5s.; W. F., 6s. 8d.; "Gosport Marine," 2s.; "Dribnair," 2s.; "Solomon Moses," 7s.

CCC.—"Ivy Mary," 2s. 6d.; "Chiswick," 6d.; "Caretaker" 5s.; M. A. G., 1s.; W. F., 6s. 8d.; "Solomon Moses," 7s.

Mr. P. L. Keeble, the winner of the £500 prize in our 1st "Bullets" Competition, has kindly forwarded us £5, which we have divided between CCXCII. and CCXCVI.

We have divided £10 from the JOHN BULL Derby Sweepstake Charity Fund between CCXCVIII and CCXCIX.

We have also apportioned £10 from the JOHN BULL Football Cup Sweepstake Charity Fund as follows:—CCC, £2 to the poor lad mentioned in our last issue under the heading of "Orderly Boys," and £3 to the subject of the paragraph in this week's issue under the title of "Colliery Owners and Conscience."

COLLECTING BOXES.

LONDON.—Mr. C. Butcher, "Admiral Hawke," 191, Jamaica Rd., Bermondsey, 1s. 4½d.; Mr. A. C. Heath, "The Atlas," 16, Seagrave Rd., Fulham, 1s. 5d.; Mr. E. T. Pimm, "Cock," Walham Green, 1s. 4½d.; Mr. D. Cohen, 86, York Rd., N., 1s.; Mr. C. H. Elliston, "King's Arms," Moorgate St., City Rd., 1s. 6d.; Mr. A. H. Adams, "Black Horse," 47, Barbican, 1s. 2½d.; Mr. F. Edgeley, 491, Grove Green Rd., Leytonstone, 1s.; Mr. J. Gunn, "Bedford Arms," 23, Blandford St., Marylebone, 1s. 8d.; Mr. W. M. Hill, "The Crown," Mayfield Rd., Dalston, 1s. 8d.; Mr. S. W. Spratt, Station Approach, Broadway, Ilford, 1s. 2½d.; Messrs. Beauner and Co., 5, Southampton Row, 1s. 4d.; Mr. C. McCarthy, Messrs. Garrett, Jones and Co., Covent Garden, £1 17s. 8½d.; Mr. H. Green, "Brownlow Arms," Beverton St., 3s. 9d.; Mr. J. C. Downey, c.o. Messrs. Lapthorn, "The Bull," 139, Whitehall, Leytonstone Rd., 3s. 7d.; Mr. Albion Pink, "The Bull," 139, High St., Shoreditch, 1s. 2½d.; Mr. V. Wrigglesworth, "Aberfeldy," Lower St., 2s. 3½d.; Mr. E. C. Gilferth, "King's Arms," 337, Cable St., Stepney, 1s.

BRISTOL.—Mr. G. E. Skinner, "Prince of Wales," Montpelier, 1s. 2d.; Mr. C. H. Attwood, "Little Bottle," Redcliffe Hill, 1s. 1½d.; Mr. F. J. Bicker, 12, Barr St., 1s. 0½d.

BIRMINGHAM.—Mr. A. J. Wilson, 88, New Hall St., 1s. 6d.; Mr. J. Lowe, "Baltic Inn," Hope St., 1s. 1d.

IPSWICH.—Mr. C. J. Ratlee, Victoria Temp. Commercial Hotel, Tavern St., 1s. 3d.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—Miss A. E. Newsham, 43, Tennyson St., 1s. 3d.

Total £3 12s. 8d., of which we have given £2 to CCXCI, and £1 12s. 8d. to CCXCII.

Startling Football Prize Offer. £500 for 6 Results. See page 33.

WHY SUFFER FROM RHEUMATISM?

THE EVIL | THE EXPLANATION | THE REMEDY

is contained in Booklet sent with each trial bottle, post free for 6d.

Gervikol

CURES RHEUMATISM

1/11 per Bottle. Trial Size 6d.

A successful scientific preparation hitherto confined to the wealthy, which always relieves and often completely cures

RHEUMATISM, LUMBAGO, GOUT, SCIATICA, and all URIC ACID Complaints.

SPECIAL OFFER.

As experience alone can show the value of this remedy we will send POST FREE on receipt of 6d. (to cover cost of preparation and packing), a trial supply to you, together with booklet containing reprints of many letters from people who have been cured by this wonderful remedy. Your money will be refunded when purchasing first 1/1 bottle. This offer is for a short time only. Write to-day.

One of many letters received.

186, West End Lane, London, N.W. 15th Jan., '14.

"Gentlemen, I have very much pleasure in testifying to the undoubted merits of 'Gervikol' in relieving and curing rheumatic pains in the joints and limbs. I have tried many other preparations for years without relief, but since using 'Gervikol' I am pleased to say I am free from pain and can highly recommend 'Gervikol' to any sufferer from Rheumatism.

"Yours faithfully, J.A. KATTE."

Gervikol *will benefit you, why not take advantage of our special offer?* and be free from pain

APIA MANUFACTURING CO., 127d, Minories, E.C.

TRIAL SUPPLY COUPON.

Please send trial size bottle and booklet for which I enclose 6d.

M.....

.....

Write clearly.

STAR Safety Razor 1875 1914

IN THE OLD DAYS

One could have as good a shave as is possible to-day, the Hollow-ground Blade predominating then as it does now. The first Safety Razor the "STAR," was placed on the market in 1875, the invention of a young cutler who had cut his features rather considerably, with an old-style razor. Many "safeties" have followed since, mostly with "wafer" blades which require replacing after a few shaves. "AS THE BLADE, SO THE SHAVE." With the "STAR," "THE VALUE IS IN THE BLADE." It lasts for years and the first cost is the last.

List of Sets from 5/6 to £5.

7/6 for Set as illustrated with silver-plated Frame and Handle.

Of all High-Class Cutlers, or MARKT & CO. (Ldn.), Ltd., 98/100, Clerkenwell Road, LONDON, E.C

No Entrance Fee.

VELCRE

A £750 House For Making FOUR WORDLETS.

Competition Closes April 14th.

£950 IN PRIZES.

FIRST PRIZE—A £750 HOUSE.

One Prize £50, One £25, Three £10, Five £5, Fifty £1, Forty of 10s. each.

To make more widely known our Skin Food Preparation, Velcre, we have decided to give the above Prizes to users of Velcre, in a simple and interesting Wordlet Competition. The First Prize will be awarded to the Wordlet the judges decide to be the best sent in and the others in order of merit.

A £750 House for Making Four Wordlets

Velcre is the Finest Preparation made for the Skin and Complexion; it keeps the hands beautifully soft and white, and beautifies the complexion; it prevents Chapping and Roughness. Cyclists and Motorists will find it Invaluable, as it Protects the Skin from sharp, cutting winds.

VELCRE is sold in jars at 1/3, 2/6 and 3/6, post paid to any address.

Examples from which Competitors must make their Wordlets:—

PARIS FASHIONS	ROAST BEEF	RENT DAY	DINNER TIME	NEW SUIT	FATHER'S PRIDE	WIFE'S MOTHER
MORE MONEY	LLOYD GEORGE	BONAR LAW	SUNNY DAY	CALLED BACK	MOTHER'S JOY	BRITISH FLEET
PICTURE PALACE	GOOD TIMES	CHEAP TRIPS	FOGGY DAY	BETTER PAY	HOME RULE	

RULES:—All Competitors must make their Wordlets on the Coupons enclosed with VELCRE on which all Particulars are given, and each competitor is allowed Four attempts of Four words each.

VELCRE will be sent on receipt of Postal Order (not stamps) for the amount. All orders and Wordlets to be sent to:—

GODFREY HAYDN & CO., 263, Regent Street, London, W.

A STAR CHAMBER INQUIRY.

CHIEF CONSTABLE WILLIAMS WHITEWASHED.

The spirit of Masterman, the rejected of Bethnal Green, and whitewasher of the brutes who were responsible for the Akbar Industrial School atrocities, seems to have transmigrated into the West Sussex "Standing Joint Committee." When we went to press with our last issue, a meeting to consider the position was being convened.

Press and Public Excluded.

It now transpires that the meeting was held *in camera*, and so practically resolved itself into a Star Chamber inquiry. A large proportion of the Committee are naval and military officers—presumably upholders of "strict discipline," and belonging to a class eminently unfitted to take an impartial view on a matter of this description.

Neither the press nor public were admitted but (according to the *Southern Weekly News*) Chief Constable Williams was allowed to be present to look after his own interests. It would appear, however, that his unfortunate victims whom he has so recklessly reduced were rigidly excluded. Many of the members of the Committee are personal friends of this arbitrary Welsh importation, and were instrumental in getting him appointed to his position. In addition to this, many go in great awe of him and only speak with bated breath in his august presence. The position forcibly reminds us of what often used to take place at elections before the introduction of the ballot, when the squire of the district stopped in the polling booth to see that all his tenants voted "straight."

"Don't Hesitate to Shoot."

It is stated that the Standing Joint Committee have no jurisdiction in the matter, and that the whole question of appointments, dismissal and discipline is in the hands of this pantomime policeman. However, we are informed that the Committee went fully into the *ex parte* statement of the Chief Constable as to his recent actions, and "decided by a large majority to express approval; adding the hope that he *would not hesitate to take any steps he considered necessary to increase the discipline and efficiency of the force.*" One would be justified in believing that they were direct descendants of the notorious "Don't hesitate to shoot" Plunkett.

The utter worthlessness of the finding of these martinets and sycophants is demonstrated to the hilt by virtue of the fact that an amendment, supported by a few independent and broadminded members (all honour to them) of the Committee, asking that a *public inquiry* should be held and evidence taken on both sides, was "defeated by an overwhelming majority."

A Worthing Resident's Prophecy.

In spite of the finding of the Committee under these Gilbertian conditions, we feel certain that such high-handed proceedings will not "increase the efficiency of the force." Self-respecting young constables will send in their resignation—it is understood that several have already intimated their intention of doing so—and, in the words of a prominent Worthing resident, "No young men with any common-sense will think of joining the force in West Sussex, for they will know that after years of hard work and good conduct, and after thereby obtaining promotion, an autocrat can, by the stroke of his pen, rob them of their stripes."

Tyranny Means Anarchy.

Our Commissioner has interviewed "all sorts and conditions of men" in West Sussex, and has obtained a lot of detailed information, but always with the proviso—"My name must on no account be mentioned." All seem to go about in fear of this gilded popinjay. This is not sufficient. Statutory declarations as to matters that have come under their personal cognisance, must be obtained from residents. If this course were pursued, and proper representations made, the Home Secretary's hand would be forced, and a public inquiry follow. Should A. S. (S?) Williams decide to continue to ride rough-shod over his unfortunate subordinates, we would refer him to a passage from Bentham—"Tyranny and Anarchy are never far asunder."

No other soap gives so good a lather.

"ERASMIC"

SHAVING STICK

DOES NOT DRY ON THE FACE.

BEWARE OF FOREIGN IMITATIONS.

10d. per Stick, in Nickel Case

Of all Chemists & Hairdressers.

ERASMIC *Perfumers*, WARRINGTON.

THE "GUILDHALL" Reg.

Sterling Silver LEVER 21/-

Warranted 10 Years.

The "GUILDHALL" is essentially the Business Man's watch because of its absolute accuracy—it will not vary a minute a month.

The neat appearance, compact size and wear resisting qualities of the "GUILDHALL" have made it famous among Business Men as being worth double the money.

Specification:—¾-plate, lever movement, compensation balance, jewelled in 15 holes, hall-marked Sterling Silver Cases.

MONEY RETURNED IF NOT SATISFIED.

If you are not satisfied with the "GUILDHALL" watch, return it to us within seven days, and we will refund your money in full, without question or quibble.

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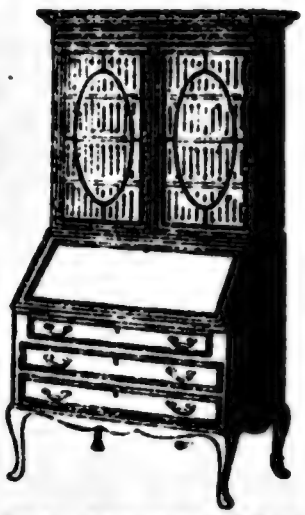

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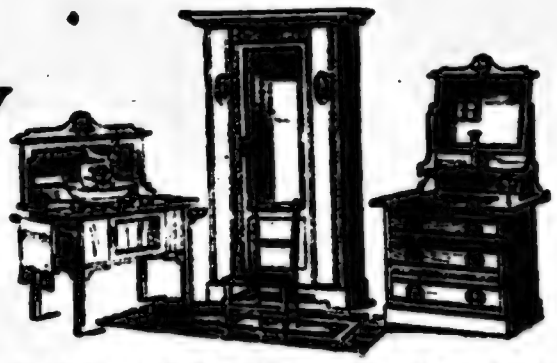

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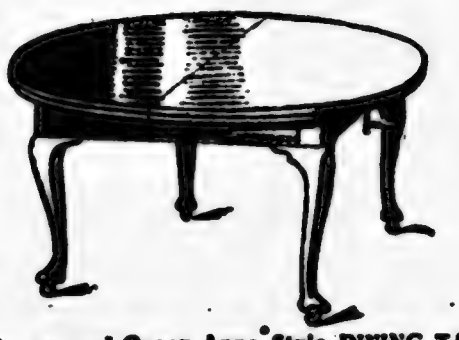

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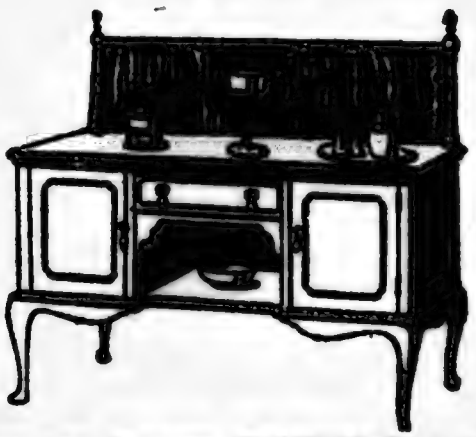

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CANDID COMMUNICATIONS.

[This page is devoted to Open Letters to Celebrities, Notorieties, and, occasionally, Nonentities.]

To the Right Hon. Sir Edward Grey, Foreign Minister.

Sir,—I have the honour to inform you that the average Briton, contemplating the murder of Mr. Benton in Mexico, is delighted to learn from your speech in the august Legislature of his great nation that you have "reserved for this country the right to secure reparation wherever there is an opportunity." He particularly notes your assurance that his Majesty's Government "do not intend to let the matter rest, and as soon as by any change of circumstances it is in their power to carry the matter further, Ministers will take whatever steps may be practicable." Speaking for myself, I can assure you it is not my intention to embarrass his Majesty's Government in their choice of the steps they should take at the psychological moment to obtain that just reparation upon which they have so firmly determined. It will, however, afford me sincere gratification if, on the earliest occasion when the yillain Villa is not looking, they would immediately dispatch Mr. Lloyd George on a special mission to drink his beer.

John Bull.

To Sir Arthur Markham, Bart., M.P., House of Commons.

Dear Sir Arthur,—That was an interesting story of yours in the Commons debate upon the Supplementary Naval Estimates. You were once connected with a firm that had contracted to supply the Admiralty with coal. The price quoted was two shillings per ton higher than that which you were then obtaining from private buyers, but the tender was gleefully accepted by the authorities, to the great pront of the contractors and to your own hearty amusement. You do not say whether you were a Member of Parliament at this time, and I am therefore unwilling to suggest that the transaction should form the subject of investigation by a Select Committee. I am more interested in your contention that the Admiralty is now paying inflated prices for its armour plates and war stores. As in the earlier instance, you seem to have chapter and verse for your assertion, but why have you kept quiet? Anything to do with that little Baronetcy?

John Bull.

To Cyril Cobb, Esq., Chairman, London County Council.

Mr. Chairman Sir,—I realise that it is in accord with the fitness of things that, since the London County Council voted you a motor-car to expedite your official movements in a manner consonant with the dignity of your high position you should desire the blazonry of an official coat of arms to glorify its progress in the midst. When, therefore, I find that the Council, on your proposition, have agreed by 76 votes to 41 to obtain a grant of arms from the College of Heralds, or some other picture shop, I do not marvel; and should there be anything else in the near future you would care to have in the way of official embellishment—say, a cocked hat, a scarlet robe, silk knee breeches, silk stockings, varnished shoes with silver buckles, and a mace of burnished gold—I trust you will not hesitate to mention it, so that the Council may order the goods without unnecessary delay.

What does puzzle me somewhat, sir, is the design of the blazonry. As one of the members put it, why the Tower of London, over which the Council has no powers of rating; and why not, instead of an ancient galley, a P. and O. boat? Personally, I should have suggested a policeman with his hand up, or a man banging a door knocker for rates, or a special committee of three measuring the skirts of a ballet girl, or Mr. John Burns rushing hot foot, with a speech in one hand and a special permit in the other, to put out a huge conflagration with his presence and patronage. And then the motto—"The sweetness of the place keeps us back"! Pray get the General Purposes Committee, or the College of Heralds, or whoever is at work on this magnificent project, to think out a new design and a new motto—say, *Pay up, Play up and Shut up.* I make no charge for these suggestions, sir, and if at any time I can contribute to the sweetness of the place by either a contribution of molasses or Eau de Cologne, please assure yourself and the Council that I am at their service.

John Bull.

To Canon Warren, Chairman Brewster Sessions, Alford, Lincs.

Dear Canon,—With reference to some remarks of yours at the Brewster Sessions praising the good influence exercised by respectable publicans on village life, I remember saying some rather nice things about you, and I don't wish to withdraw them; but after reading a full report of the applications for licences granted and refused I must tell you I am a little surprised to note the curious treatment by the Bench over whom you presided of an application made on behalf of a local publican for a music and dancing licence. The Superintendent of Police objected, on the ground that the house "was frequented by women of bad character"—for all I know that may or may not be. The Bench refused the application, and you added—on a protest from the applicant's solicitor—that "The magistrates had it in their own hands whether they granted it or not, without giving their reasons." Quite so, dear Canon, but—if only for the look of the thing—don't you think it is as well to hear a little evidence?

John Bull.

To W. C. Maude, Esq., J.P. (Chairman) and J. W. P. Crooke, Esq., J.P., Bournemouth.

Gentlemen,—A wave of indignation has passed over Bournemouth in regard to your decision in the case of William Copley, a postman who had attempted suicide, and who, when he appeared in the dock, "still looked to be in a delicate state of health." According to the statement of Dr. Morland Smith in the witness box, he, as Medical Officer to the Post Office, had been attending Copley for a fortnight previous to the occurrence. "Prisoner was suffering from influenza, and at the time he was not responsible for his actions. He saw the man the day before at his house." That being all there is in the case, is it surprising that Bournemouth people are asking, not only why you committed Copley for trial, but why you should refuse to admit him to bail? In most cases of attempted suicide—especially when due to a constitution debilitated by illness—it is usual to hand the prisoner over to his friends, on his promise not to repeat his act and their undertaking to look after him; whilst the confinement of the poor fellow in gaol until the trial (how long hence I do not know) is not only cruel, but is likely to aggravate his mental depression and physical weakness. On this aspect it may be the Recorder will in due course have something to say; at least I hope so.

John Bull.

To C. E. Price, Esq., M.P., House of Commons.

Sir,—You seem to have made an interesting discovery. In the course of a recent Parliamentary debate you are reported to have said that "if any large firm carried on its business on the same lines as those adopted by the Board of Admiralty, it would speedily be in bankruptcy." Have you thought things over, and are you prepared with a practical remedy? If not, what do you think of mine? I would set a trained business man at the head of each Department of State, charging him, as he valued his portfolio, that business methods should prevail throughout the area of his control. I would vest supreme executive authority in a Business Board, whose members would have proved their competence in the management of affairs. Such, in rough outline, is my plan. Can you better it? If not, don't sit there and grumble, but come out into the open and help!

John Bull.

To the Rev. T. H. Darlow, Literary Superintendent, Bible Society.

Dear Sir,—I notice that you have been dilating upon the difficulties of translating the Bible into heathen tongues. In the language of Southern Nigeria "right" and "might" are literally synonymous, there being but one word for the expression of the two ideas. In another weird dialect even a sacred festival can be rendered only by a term which signifies "much beer drinking." In the speech of the Papuans the text "Thou givest me no kiss" must be translated "Thou dost not smell my nose." These lingual problems must have occasioned infinite labour to you and your colleagues in missionary effort, and I only trust that you are satisfied with the results. Why don't you teach the beggars English, and thus do something useful?

John Bull.

Our Football Exception week. A Novel One-Week Contest. See page 33.

THE HORSE AND THE WATER.

REDMOND: "It's aisy to bring him the wather, Asquith, but it's the divvil to make him drink!"

JOHN BULL. March 14th, 1914.

CURTAIN RAISERS.

THE PHOTOGRAPHIC ENLARGEMENT.

Act I.

Scene: *Poor but respectable cottage in small town. Aged widow at door listening respectfully to tout.*

Tout: My firm particularly requested me to call upon you, Mrs. er—Brown. They thought that a lady of your respectability might be of great service to them in this town.

Widow: Well, sir, if I can do anything for the gentlemen I'm sure I shall be only——

Tout: You can, Mrs. Brown, you can, my dear madam. My firm place the highest value on your recommendation amongst your neighbours, and are therefore willing to make an enlargement of some photograph that you cherish, *free of charge*, on the understanding that you afterwards recommend us to your friends and acquaintances.

Widow: That's very kind, I'm sure, sir, and if I had a photo that I didn't mind parting with for a while I'd be only too pleased to——

Tout: Now, come, Mrs. Brown! Surely you have the picture of some relative or friend on which you set great store? Let us enlarge it for you.

Widow: I've only one photo that I care anything about, sir, and that it would break my poor old heart to part with. It is of my son Jim—my only son, sir. He was killed in the South African war, sir, I couldn't part with that, not even for a day. It is the only thing I have to comfort me in my lonely old age.

Tout: But, Mrs. Brown, that is exactly the sort of photo that deserves enlargement. We should only keep it a few days; and, then, think how proud you will be to have a life-size picture of your gallant son hanging on your parlour wall! Let me take it with me now. Remember, once more, the enlargement will not cost you a penny, and you will have a possession which will be the admiration of all your friends and acquaintances.

Widow (*hesitating*): You promise to let me have it back?

Tout: Within a week, on my word of honour.

Widow (*having fetched photograph*): Here it is, then, sir; and you'll take care of my Jim, won't you, sir?

Tout: The utmost care, madam. Of course you would like us to put the enlargement into a suitable frame, would you not? That will be advisable to protect the picture from the air.

Widow: You're very kind, I'm sure, sir. And anything I can do for your gentlemen you may depend I will.

Tout: That is very good of you, Mrs. Brown. In about a week's time, then, you will see me again. Good day.

[*Exit Tout.*

Act II.

Scene: *The same as in Act I. A week later.*

Tout: Here is the enlargement, Mrs. Brown.

Widow: Oh, my Jim! my poor Jim! How I have missed the little photo to be sure! But this is great! And what a beautiful frame! Your gentlemen are very generous.

Tout: Ah, yes. Now, about the frame. That will be 15s. 6d.—a specially low price to introduce our goods.

Widow: I don't rightly understand, sir.

Tout: I say the frame will be 15s. 6d.

Widow: Fifteen-and-six! Why, sir, I could no more afford that than I could fly! I shall have to be contented without the frame, sir, that's all; if you'll kindly take the picture out.

Tout: I cannot do that. If you want the free enlargement you must buy the frame. You cannot expect us to work for nothing.

Widow: But you told me, sir . . .

Tout: You must have misunderstood me. I distinctly asked you whether we should frame the enlargement, and you gave me an order to do so.

Widow: But ten shillings a week is all I have to live on, sir. How can I pay 15s. 6d. for a frame?

Tout: That is your business, madam.

Widow: Then give me back my little photo of Jim, and I will not ask for the picture you have done.

Tout: That is at our works. It may not be possible to find it now. Come, be sensible. Pay half-a-crown a week. You won't feel that. Think it over, and write to us. Till then, we hold the photo.

[*Exit* Tout, *leaving* Widow *weeping.*]

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"Mary! this chair is covered with dust!"
"Why, so it is, mum. I don't suppose anyone's sat on it lately."

HEARD IN THE TRAIN.

THE MEXICAN MURDER.

City Man (*lowering newspaper to his knees*) : We Britishers haven't much to be proud of nowadays.

Obvious Nonconformist Radical (*looking over "Daily News"*) : Eh? Well, I don't know. We are making great strides, I think, in social reform. Look at the Insurance Act, the Plural Voting Bill, the——

City Man : Nonsense! I'm not referring to trivialities of that kind. I was thinking of the murder of Mr. Benton by that Mexican savage, Villa.

O. N. R. : Ah, yes; very distressing, wasn't it? Touching Home Rule——

City Man : Excuse me, I am *not* touching Home Rule. I am speaking of an incident before which Home Rule sinks into insignificance. The Home Rule controversy is simply a glorified Party squabble, whereas the murder of Benton is a matter of supreme national moment.

O. N. R. : Do you think so? It certainly must have been painful to the widow. I see the Lords are determined to rake about in Marconi mud again. What a pity Lord Loreburn consented to——

City Man : There was a time, sir, when British prestige was such that for a man to declare himself a British subject assured him protection in almost any part of the civilised world. I myself can remember the time of day when the news of the maltreatment of one of our countrymen at the hands of foreigners would have set the whole country ablaze with righteous indignation.

O. N. R. : I daresay. We are not so impetuous nowadays. I see Lloyd George held his own splendidly in the House of Commons last night over that——

City Man : Pardon me, Lloyd George has no earthly interest for me at the moment. What alarms and grieves me is to find that England is capable of such apathy. It is not so very long since the news of Benton's murder would have meant the despatch of a Naval squadron to Mexican waters, to demand reparation for the wrong done to a British subject. Instead of that, we leave our honour in the doubtful hands of the United States.

O. N. R. : Ah, yes; we are wiser now.

City Man : Wiser, do you call it? *I* call it cowardice, pusillanimity, sir! Do you think Germany would have taken such a course? Germany would have sent her last ship—Monroe Doctrine or no Monroe Doctrine.

O. N. R. : Don't you think you take a rather exaggerated view of the Mexican affair?

City Man : Is it possible to take an exaggerated view of the foul murder of a fellow-countryman? You astonish me, sir, by suggesting it. You *are* an Englishman?

O. N. R. (*showing a little heat*) : As good an Englishman as you, sir, if you'll allow me to say so.

City Man (*sarcastically*) : And a Radical into the bargain, I daresay.

O. N. R. (*hotly*) : I *am* a Liberal, if the fact interests you—yes, sir!

City Man : *And* a Nonconformist, doubtless.

O. N. R. : I fail to see what my religion has to do with the question.

City Man : Your politics and religion explain everything, sir. Had Benton been a Russian refugee, or a persecuted Armenian, you and your kind would have yelled to the Government to take instant steps to avenge the murder, *at any cost*. But because Benton was only a British subject, he is beyond the range of your sympathies.

O. N. R. : I think you are most insulting——

City Man : I *mean* to be insulting, sir! You and your kind excite my most intense disgust. It is through men of your breed that British prestige throughout the world is now a thing of scorn and ridicule. It is through creatures—not men—of your sort that England will be dragged down to even lower depths of degradation than she has reached at present.

O. N. R. : I refuse to answer you, sir!

City Man : And I refuse to sit any longer in your company. Thank God, here's a station, where I can change carriages. Pah! (*Exit* City Man.)

Amazing! "Mary Bull" Offers £5 a Week for Life. See page 27.

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"Such a Relief! How my sore, puffed-up, perspiring feet ached for "TIZ."

Ah! what relief. No more tired feet; no more burning feet; no more swollen, perspiring feet. No more soreness in corns, hard skin, bunions.

No matter what ails your feet or what under the sun you've tried without getting relief, just use TIZ. TIZ is the only remedy that draws out all the poisonous exudations which puff up the feet. TIZ cures your foot trouble so that you'll never limp or draw up your face in pain. Your shoes won't seem tight and your feet will never, never hurt or get sore and swollen. Think of it, no more foot misery, no more agony from corns, hard skin, or bunions.

Get a 1/1½ box at any chemist's or store and get instant relief. Wear smaller shoes. Just once try TIZ. Get a whole year's foot comfort for only 1/1½. Think of it.

"Sixpence an ounce"

Whatever you like in a tobacco will be found in CRAVEN "A" Mixture.

Whatever you object to you will not find in CRAVEN "A" Mixture.

Tobacco smoking is largely a matter of taste. If you buy a tin of CRAVEN "A" we think you'll stick to it. Most smokers do, especially the particular kind, those who *know* a good tobacco when they try it.

That's why we are so keen on getting you to try a tin.

You'll be satisfied and pleased and we shall have made a friend as well as a customer.

Carreras, Ltd., Arcadia Works, City Road, London, E.C. (Established 1788.)
Obtainable at our West End Branch: 55 Piccadilly, W.

FOR COUGHS. Owbridge's Lung Tonic FOR COLDS.

Owbridge's Lung Tonic

The best known remedy for

COUGHS & COLDS

Invaluable to SPEAKERS, SINGERS and all who suffer from THROAT WEAKNESS.

CAUTION:
Ask for "Owbridge" and take no substitute.

Prepared by
W. T. OWBRIDGE, Ltd.
Manufacturers, The Laboratory,
HULL.
Established 1870.

FREE CURE FOR RHEUMATICS.

SCIENTIST'S GENEROUS GIFT.

Extraordinary interest has been aroused by the recent discovery of "Sanadones," the new antidote which completely expels Uric Acid from the system, thus affording immediate relief to all sufferers from Rheumatism, Gout, Sciatica, Neuritis and Lumbago.

This new remedy is easy and pleasant to take, instantly drives away all pain, and is guaranteed to have absolutely no injurious after effects of any kind whatsoever.

To enable every sufferer to verify the truth of these statements the Discoverer has decided to give away 10,000 Free Test Treatments.

Write to-day to the Sole Agents, Sanalak Ltd., 128, Vine Street, Clerkenwell, London, E.C. (enclosing 1d. stamp to cover postage), and you will receive by return sufficient "Sanadones" to cure any ordinary case of Rheumatism, Gout, etc.

WHAT IS YOUR NUMBER?

Every copy of JOHN BULL bears upon its cover a distinctive number and every week FIFTY of such numbers will be drawn and PUBLISHED IN THE FOLLOWING ISSUE.

To each of the holders of copies of JOHN BULL *of specified date*, bearing any of such numbers, we will, upon production within seven days of publication (a reasonable extension will be allowed to foreign and Colonial claimants) of a sufficient portion of the cover to identify the date and number pay the sum of ONE GUINEA in return for his using his best endeavour for one week to increase our circulation. Before the money is paid we require a report of all the work done.

Owing to lack of space we are compelled to hold over names and addresses of claimants.

The following are the fifty numbers for our issue of March 7th:—

000605	156763	362376	537959	731835
012107	198404	370834	547803	819413
026125	213892	399103	567242	838294
034407	223473	409986	607783	866786
064760	239442	422327	613819	872751
090982	269778	429451	644220	913412
105812	283477	479426	668764	947637
109130	301405	503617	716348	A000012
127489	302311	508581	731013	A008334
142011	329375	519928	772402	A009097

The A prefixed to a drawn number indicates it is plus a million.

The Fifty Numbers in respect of this week will be announced in our next issue (published on March 18th).

JOHN BULL'S VARIETY TURNS.

THE POLITICAL BACKCHAT ARTISTS.

CARSON AND REDMOND.

REDMOND: The top av the marnin' tu yez!

CARSON: The back-side av the afthernoon tu yez!

REDMOND: Oi had a drame last noight.

CARSON: Whin ye were aslape?

REDMOND: Av course. Whoiver drames whin they're awake?

CARSON: *You* do. You think the Home Rule Bill is going tu pass. Ut's a drame!

REDMOND: Ut's a loie!

CARSON: Take thot! (*biff!*) Now get up, else Oi'll knock ye down. Phwat did ye drame?

REDMOND: Oi drimt Oi was Proime Ministher av the Oirish Parrrliymint at Dublin.

CARSON: Thot was no drame. 'Twas a noightmare!

REDMOND: 'Twas a noightmare. Oi mane 'twas a plisint exparience. You were there.

CARSON: Oi was there. Thot made ut plisint. Where was Oi?

REDMOND: There. . . . At the bar.

CARSON: Ut's a loie! (*biff!*) Get up, else Oi'll knock ye down. Phwat was Oi doing at the bar?

REDMOND: You were shtandin'.

CARSON: Oi was shtandin'. Who was Oi shtandin'?

REDMOND: Nobody. You were just shtandin'.

CARSON: At the bar. In the saloon.

REDMOND: In the saloon. . . . No, no, in the House av Commons. You were shtandin' at the bar av the Oirish House av Commons. . . .

CARSON: Tellun' um phwat Oi thought av um.

REDMOND: Tellun' um phwat yez thought av um. . . No, no; Oi was tellin' yez phwat Oi thought av yez.

CARSON: Take thot fure yez impidince! (*biff!*) Now get up, else Oi'll knock ye down. Here, *Oi* had a drame last noight.

REDMOND: Ye had?

CARSON: Oi said Oi had. Oi thought Oi was marrchin' at the head av the Ulster Arrmy, in full . . .

REDMOND: Retrate.

CARSON: Retrate. . . . No, no; in full uniform.

REDMOND: Thot wasn't a drame. 'Twas a fit.

CARSON: 'Twas a good fit, but a little toight . . .

REDMOND: You were.

CARSON: Oi was . . .

REDMOND: A little toight . . .

CARSON: Undher the arrms. Oi had more men . . .

REDMOND: Than wimmin.

CARSON: No, no!

REDMOND: Yez had more wimmin than men.

CARSON: Oi had more wimmin then . . . Bad cess tu yez! Will yez hould yer tongue?

REDMOND: In me cheek.

CARSON: Where ye loike, so long as ye hould ut. Whin we got tu Corrk Oi said tu Galloper Smith . . .

REDMOND: Where is ut?

CARSON: Phwat arre yez talkin' about?

REDMOND: The beer.

CARSON: The Divil fly away wid the beer! There was no beer, Oi'm tellun' yez. Only . . .

REDMOND: Whisky.

CARSON: Whisky. . . . Oi said tu 'Galloper Smith, "Where arre the inimy?" He said . . .

REDMOND: Close behint us.

CARSON: Close behint us . . . Will yez be quiet? He said they're . . .

REDMOND: Catchin' us fast.

CARSON: Fast. . . . Then Oi . . .

REDMOND: Woke up.

CARSON: No, no. . . . Thin Oi . . .

REDMOND: Wint on dramin'. . . .

CARSON: Thin Oi gave ordhers . . .

REDMOND: Fure another dhrink.

CARSON: No, no! . . . Fure . . .

REDMOND: A cigar.

CARSON: The inimy tu be charged . . .

REDMOND: Parlour prices.

(*The "bird," and sudden* CURTAIN.)

SORE & TENDER SKINS

Rough, scaly patches, pimples and blotches, and painful cracking indicate that the skin urgently needs revitalising by Zam-Buk. Zam-Buk should be used immediately the skin gets sore or irritable. Zam-Buk is far better than toilet creams, which clog up the pores of the skin and aggravate the trouble. Zam-Buk is *a soothing healer of unparalleled power*. There are active medicinal essences in Zam-Buk which are absorbed deep down beneath the outer layer of skin.

When used for all Spring skin troubles Zam-Buk dispels disease and grows new healthy skin.

Zam-Buk

GRAVES 'WORLD'S BEST' CYCLE

The Graves 'Speed King' Modele de Luxe is the World's Best Bicycle. This is a considered statement, and we earnestly invite you to compare our specification with any other make you like to choose, and then form your own opinion as to the truth of our assertion. Plainly put, we challenge the Cycle Trade to produce a machine of equal merit. The Graves Cycle contains the most recent perfections, and every component is supplied by a maker of world-wide renown, the excellence of whose speciality is admittedly unequalled by any other manufacturer.

WE DELIVER Graves 'Speed King' Modele de Luxe exactly to specification, Ladies' or Gent's, carriage paid to all approved orders for 10/- NOW. The balance is payable in small monthly payments if you are entirely satisfied with the Cycle after full inspection at your own home, and are fully convinced that our offer is absolutely genuine and our claim perfectly true. Every machine carries the Graves Guarantee for 10 years and we allow the fullest approval. If, for any reason whatever you are disappointed you simply return the machine, leaving us to pay the carriage, and we will immediately refund every penny of your money without any discussion.

10/- WITH ORDER.

TEN YEARS WARRANTY.

SPECIFICATION:

REYNOLDS WELDLESS STEEL TUBING
CLINCHER A-WON OR DUNLOP TYRES
PHILLIPS YOKE AND HINGE BRAKES
STURMEY-ARCHER 3-SPEED GEAR
HANS RENOLD TWIN ROLLER CHAIN
BROOKS B.75 PLATED SPRING SADDLE
WILLIAMS CHAIN WHEEL & CRANKS
PHILLIPS DE LUXE PATENT PEDALS
HOFFMANNS' PATENT STEEL BALLS
DOVER HANDLE GRIPS AND LEVER TIPS

Enamelled Black or Green, as ordered, and beautifully lined with double gold panels. All bright parts Best Nickel Plated. Supplied complete with Brooks' Name Cast Tool Bag, Oil Can, Pumps and Clips. Dunlop Repair Outfit and complete range of Hardened Steel Spanners.

WRITE FOR NEW CATALOGUE

A post card will bring you per return our latest edition of the Graves World's Best Cycles. It contains a full range of Ladies' and Gent's Machines, including All-black all-weather Models with full details of specifications and all particulars of our Easy Monthly Payment Terms. Prices from £4 10:0 to £11:0:0. This interesting and practical book puts you absolutely on the inside track for Cycle-quality and value and no matter where you live you may profit by our trade challenging prices and our favourable terms of payment.

Separate Catalogues for Cycle and Motor Cycle Tyres, Accessories, Motor Cycles, and Side Cars. Write for the one which interests you.

J.A. GRAVES LTD.
SHEFFIELD.

AMAZING PRIZE OFFER

£5 A WEEK FOR LIFE!

Nothing to Pay!

OR

£2,500 IN CASH

AT THE OPTION OF THE WINNER.

Nothing to Pay!

2nd Prize	3rd Prize	50 CASH PRIZES OF	50 CASH PRIZES OF	100 CASH PRIZES OF
£150	£75	£1	10/-	2/6

IN GREAT NEW

PICTURE COMPETITION

READ ALL ABOUT IT

This is the opportunity of a lifetime for readers of "John Bull." To put it briefly we are giving away a fortune for nothing! But there is method in our madness. We are doing it entirely to advertise our paper. The increase in the circulation of "Mary Bull" the past few months has created a record—yet we are not satisfied. We want "Mary Bull" to find a place in every home — every week. That is our aim — and we shall accomplish it. In its new form we are convinced "Mary Bull" is the brightest and most helpful woman's paper existing, and best of all—it is the ideal home journal—a paper for the wife—and one the mother can put into the hands of the daughter or child, confident that everything in it is desirable reading. So we are hurling the "sinews of war" for a great new Picture Competition, in which the huge pension prize of £5 a week for life (or an alternative cash prize of £2,500), and other cash prizes of £150, £75, 50 of £1, 50 of 10s. and 100 of 2s.6d. are offered. We invite, indeed, we expect every "John Bull" reader to enter. The Competition is simplicity itself—all you have to do is to solve easy picture puzzles—so that every reader has an equal opportunity of winning. Just glance at our amazing Prize offer again—and remember there is nothing to pay—then get

MARY BULL ON SALE FRIDAY NEXT, MARCH 13th.

BUY YOUR COPY EARLY. IF YOUR NEWSAGENT IS SOLD OUT ASK HIM TO GET IT FOR YOU.

THE JOY WHEEL.

By Joyful James.

[Joyful James has no mission in life beyond that of manufacturing mirth and merriment. He is the irresponsible, irrepressible Jester at the Court of King Laughter.]

Life is a Joy Wheel ride,
We cling, and we clutch and we grip.
A whirr and a whizz! Then we glide
Off the wheel with a slithery slip.
Our life is all pleasure to-day
But comes the awaking to-morrow,
And the ride that is joyful and gay
Has its finish in pathos and sorrow

I know not Party or politics, and I am none too sure that I possess a creed. I can but hope that, when the Business Government comes along, I shall get the job of Chancellor of the Exchequer, so that I may handle the money and make ferocious speeches, even as does my illustrious contemporary, David Lloyd George. I am but a jester, and, as I shake my cap and bells, they will tinkle only the tintinnabulations of joy.

Therefore, my friends, do not be aggrieved with me if I can see fun even in a Solemn League and Covenant. As I studied my history in my boyhood's days I was awed by the dour determination of the Scottish Covenanters—those rugged warriors who, primed with prayer and "usquebaugh," would gladly slit open another fellow's jugular vein in the sacred cause of religion. Fine old chaps they were, with sandy whiskers, armed with claymores and the Book of Brotherly love. They would have been greater still had they known the strategy of the modern advertising agent.

In that respect Carson's covenanters are streets ahead of them. Is not a leading London evening paper imploring its readers, in agonied columns, to sign the Solemn League and Covenant? From inquiries I have made there has not been a wild rush of the godly to come to the assistance of loyal Ulster—with the pen, and, you know, the pen is mightier than the sword. The London paper is behind the London tobacconist who is advertising the Carson cigarette. Part of the profits from its sales is to go to the funds of the Carson cause. So you and I, who have not the fighting temperament, and are averse to finding a home for musket balls in our pericardia, can still be heroes. We can sit at home and smoke bravely the Carson cigarette and with every puff we can exclaim, "To H—— with the Pope and up with Doctor Clifford!"

Is there a patriot within
Whose breast there lacks the fire
Of glory in the battle's din?
I'll swipe him with my lyre.
If such there be, that one I'll brand
As one whose courage lags:
Raise Carson's Ulster Red Right Hand—
And kindly pass the fags!

When cannons roar, and trumpets blare,
When gallops F. E. Smith,
When shrapnel carries off our hair,
Likewise our kin and kith,
We'll clutch our fags between our teeth
And puff and blow—no joke—
And framing thus a funeral wreath,
Our fight will end in smoke.

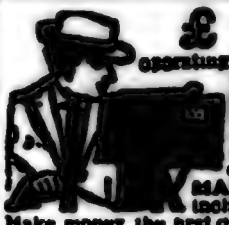
This terrible attack of Ulsteria is productive of most sinister symptoms. There is a Territorial officer in Essex who declares that if he is called upon to take up arms against loyal Ulster he "won't be mobilised for anybody." Son of Mars, shake! I am with you every time. I, too, refuse to mobilise. That makes things even. The gallant officer refuses to mobilise against Ulster; I refuse to mobilise for it. Hearken to the terrible Territorial!

I'll bare my sabre to the foe,
'Gainst Teutons base, who shout
Their Pan-Germanic hymn "What ho!"
And "Hoch dem Sauerkraut!"
I'll face the Uhlans without fear;
But, when fair Ulster cries,
I swear by gods of gin and beer
I will *not* mobilise!

KING up your tobacconist for a tin of this delightful new blend. It is made by a firm who have been blending choice tobacco since the reign of George II.
TADDY'S
LONDON MIXTURE
Packed in 1-oz. and 2-oz. packets, and in 4-oz., 1-lb. and 4-lb. tins 4d. per ounce.
Always smoke Taddy's Tobacco—the finest tobacco is the best friend.

SAFEGUARD YOUR FUTURE.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICE.—Men and Women wanted to take up a course of Postal Training for excellent positions under Poor Law Authorities ruling Officers, Registrars, Stewards, Clerks, Storekeepers, Matrons, Assistant Matrons, Paid Visitors; no exams.; age 19-40. Excellent prospects; good salaries; progress. Special preparation for all posts. "A Straightforward Concern."—*John Bull.* Write, Secretary, Poor Law Postal Training College, 213, Thanet House, Strand. "College Magazine" free.



£20 A MONTH

operating the NEW MODEL COMBINATION CAMERA. It takes and instantly develops eleven entirely different styles of pictures, including two sizes and four styles PAPER POST CARDS, six styles of Tintype Pictures and Brooch Pictures. Requires no experience whatever. Everybody wants pictures. Five hundred per cent. profit. THE WORLD'S BIGGEST MONEY-MAKER. Small investment secures complete outfit, including Camera, Tripod, and material for 150 pictures. Make money the first day, no matter where you live or what you are doing. Detailed information free, including letters from prosperous operators everywhere.
L. LASCELLE, Manager, 8, Beaverie St., Dept. 316, London, E.C.

Special Positions for Special Men

. . Hapgoods have a large number of Special Positions open—High Grade Technical, Clerical, Organising, and Travelling Positions, carrying salaries ranging from £150—1,000 a year, but they are positions which can only be filled by men of Special Ability. If you are a man with more than the average amount of ability and with a desire to realise your true worth write or call to-day.

HAPGOODS Ltd., Employment Experts, 167-168, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

WHITE, FISHER & CO.,

THE WORLD'S PREMIER SPORTING ACCOUNTANTS.

5, Rue Du Commerce, Geneva, Switzerland.

RACING NO LIMIT | **FOOTBALL** NOTHING BARRED

Letter Commissions for either Football or Racing accepted on any Race or Match. Post before 1 o'c. for FOOTBALL, 12 o'c. for RACING, and

YOU ARE ON.

RULES for Football and Racing sent on application.

HAVE YOU A CAR? If so, don't ruin the delicate suits with stale grit-clogged sponges and leathers, but use a RAPID WATER-FURROW WASHER. Car washed in a "jiffy." No scratching. "John Bull" said on December 13th, "An extremely ingenious and much-needed invention." Illustrated Catalogue free.—The RAPID WORKS, 318, King Street, Hammersmith, W.

Everybody interested in "the Sport of Kings" should buy "The Racing Journal" (edited by "Hermit")—a week-end guide confined exclusively to turf topics and selections. First issue, March 27th. Order from your newsagent now. Price one shilling.

Why should I pay middlemen's profits, when:—

I can get my furniture from the actual makers by going to the "Midland" Furniture Salons? The "Midland" have their own studios for designing beautiful furniture; their own highly-skilled craftsmen for carrying out the designs. By doing the work themselves they eliminate intermediate profits altogether. They are thus able to reduce prices and to give the utmost possible value for every shilling you spend. You will find, as everyone finds, that

Money buys more at the "Midland."

Go and see for yourself. Examine the £100,000 worth of superb furniture now on view. Compare the prices of really beautifully made new "Midland" furniture with what you would be charged for "Sale Stock" elsewhere. You cannot fail to see the clear advantages, both in quality and in price, which you gain by getting your furniture at the "Midland."

Write for the "Midland" Book of Furniture.

It is the finest and most comprehensive Guide to Furnishing ever published. It contains over 1,000 photographs actually taken inside the "Midland" Salons. Send a postcard with your name and address, and you will get it free by return.

The "Midland" charge nothing for credit—no deposit, no interest. Customers can also obtain free insurance policies whereby all furniture purchased on Ideal Terms becomes the absolute property of the wife, in the event of the death of the purchaser. All Furniture thus purchased is also insured against fire, free.

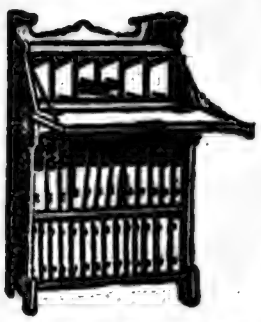
10% Discount for Cash.

Ideal Terms (Town or Country)

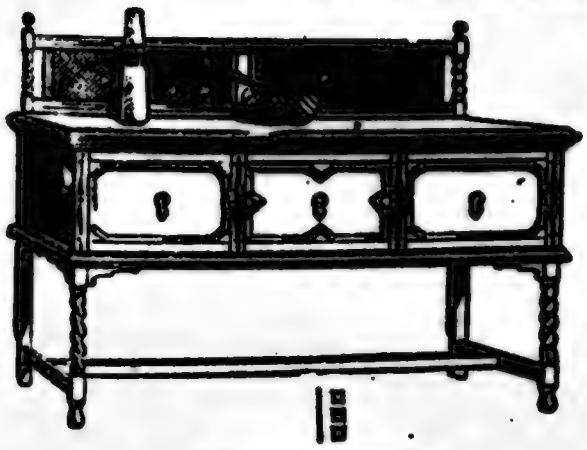
Worth.	Per Mth.	Worth.	Per Mth.
£10 .. £0	6 0	£50 .. 1	8 0
£20 .. 0	11 0	£100 .. 2	5 0
£30 .. 0	17 0	£200 .. 4	10 0
£40 .. 1	3 0	£500 .. 11	5 0

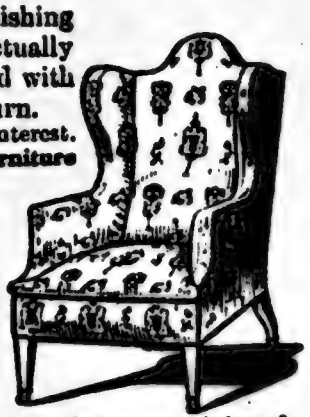
Larger amounts pro rata.

Customers' Fares Paid to Town on all Orders of £20 and over.
Packing and Delivery Free.



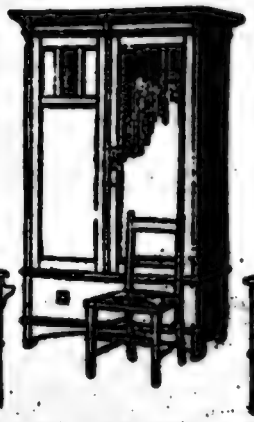
Fumed Oak Bureau 2ft. 2in. wide, 3ft. 6in. high, 9in. deep. **£1 1s. 0d.**

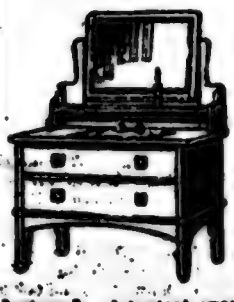




A luxurious upholstered Easy Chair, covered in art tapestry to customer's choice. £1 8s. 6d.

8 ft. Sideboard, beautifully designed on Jacobean lines, soundly constructed of oak, finished a rich antique brown. With cane back. £8 18s. 6d.

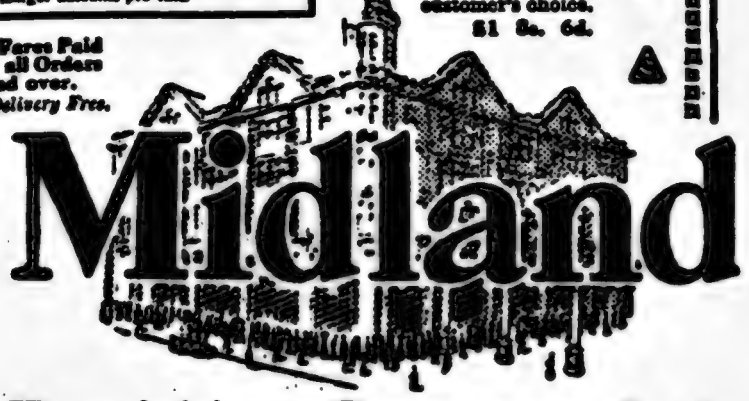




Well-made Bedroom Suite in oak, handsomely designed, of "Midland" value. With two rush-seated Chairs.

A typical example £6 16s. 6d.

No Branch Establishments.



Midland

Furnishing Company, Ltd.,

Contractors to H.M. Crown Agents for the Colonies,

15 to 23, Southampton Row, Holborn, W.C.

Seven doors from Holborn and Holborn Tube Station.
1 minute from British Museum Tube Station.

Hours—9 till 6. Saturdays—9 till 1.

Governing Director, GEORGE MICHAEL (who has been connected with the business for 30 years).

A "BULLETS" WINNER'S THANKS.

Mr. W. C. Bass, of 20, Greyhound Road, Fulham, the winner of the £500 in our 72nd "Bullets" Competition, writes as follows:—

> It is impossible for me to describe by letter the great surprise that I received when my name as premier prize-winner in your "Bullets" Competition met my eye. I had purchased my ticket and was making my way toward the train for the office when I made the great discovery. Needless to say I immediately returned home to convey the good news, but had no sooner alighted from the tram at the top of the road where I live than congratulations began to pour upon me. I am a clerk, 25 years of age, employed at the Variety Artistes' Federation. This is my thirteenth prize, having had ten consolation 5s. and 2s. 6d. previously awarded to me, so this is evidently *not* my unlucky number.
>
> The simplicity with which the cheque was given to me does your competition great credit, the money being handed over immediately I proved myself the rightful owner. Although many have tried to dishearten me, I have continued to "peg" away. My advice to all competitors is to do the same.

The feeling of local pride when a premier prize is awarded, being disinterested, is highly creditable to the patriotism of the residents in the localities whence come the winners. We wonder, by-the-bye, which suburb or town can boast the greatest number of premier winners?

OUR "BULLETS" JUDGING.

The following letter, from Mr. J. Etherington, of 26, Bredon Road, East Croydon, dated February 27th, is the outcome of a surprise visit which he and a friend paid us:—

> It was a very great pleasure when I and colleague visited the "Bullets" judges this afternoon, and had the system of judging so agreeably and lucidly explained to us. From time to time we have heard some people pass doubtful remarks as to the system; but after our experience of actually seeing the judges at work, there can be no possible doubt as to everything being fair, square and above board.
>
> Further, we are convinced that the competitor who sports his simple sixpence stands just as good a chance as the competitor who enters a larger number of efforts.
>
> Our conclusion is that "The best lines win."
>
> Our thanks are due to the judges, who were most agreeable, notwithstanding our interrupting them in their work.

We are always pleased to welcome any reader who may care to give us a call.

OUR MAD POET'S CORNER.

Suffragette.

Spasm I.

Do you really want the vote, Suffragette.
When you act the giddy goat, Suffragette?
If you covet the Franchise,
Don't you think it would be wise
Just to wait till Party dies, Suffragette?

Spasm II.

Surely you see through the game, Suffragette,
That is played in Party's name, Suffragette?
You don't want to take a hand
With the great "job-seeking" band
In the ruling of this land, Suffragette.

Spasm III.

Put your bomb and hammer by, Suffragette.
Party is about to die, Suffragette.
Tarry just a little, do,
Till the farce has been played through—
We'll start afresh along with you, Suffragettes.

Two journalistic changes are announced. All sportsmen will be pleased that *Sporting Gossip* is to be on sale everywhere each Wednesday in future; while the *Competitors' Journal*, which has hitherto dealt exclusively with competition matters, will, in future, consist of 36 pages and devote space to topics of general interest—an innovation which should secure for it many additional readers.

WE WIRE WINNERS!

"Gale's Special"

The "SPECIAL" that Guarantees Your Success!

"It is many years since GALE'S SPECIAL first saw the light of day, and it is pleasing to see that the old standards and old reputation as a sound adviser are not only maintained but going stronger than ever. Few tips are given but that these are well on the mark can be seen by reference to its long list of successes during the past season."—*Vide The Jockey, November 22nd, 1913.*

Next Monday's issue of GALE'S SPECIAL, containing the Editor's final "double" for the "Lincoln" and "National" Handicaps, together with other selections for the current week, published at 2s. 6d., will be sent post free in plain sealed envelope upon receipt of 1s. P.O. or stamps to all readers of "JOHN BULL" enclosing this paragraph.

Racing speculations to-day are similar to Stock Exchange speculations, in that they do not associate themselves with the same risk as formerly, and to the sportsman who speculates judiciously the opportunity presents itself with the opening of the Flat-Racing Season whereby he may limit his losses with a prospect of unlimited profits.

Sound judgment and reliable information are the most important factors of success in Turf speculation, and the reputation we maintained last year for definite and reliable intelligence combined with straightforward and honourable business transactions with all our subscribers should be a sufficient guarantee that sportsmen may invest fearlessly upon the information we send to them through the medium of

Gale's Primus Wire

The Most Successful Service Ever Inaugurated.

It is impossible to print a full list of selections in the space we have at our disposal, but during the month of February all subscribers to this service received,—

Wednesday, February 4th.—
WHITING, 10 to 1 agst., Won.

Tuesday, February 10th.—
ADERNA, 5 to 1 agst., Won.

Wednesday, February 18th.—
SCHWARMER, 6 to 1 agst., Won.

Thursday, February 26th.—
FINCHALE, 4 to 1 agst., Won.

The charge for this Special Primus Wire is TWENTY-FIVE POUNDS PER MESSAGE. In no circumstances whatever is more than one selection ever mentioned on this message. It amounts to this, ONE SELECTION ONLY—THE BEST SELECTION THAT MONEY, BRAINS AND INFLUENCE CAN PROCURE.

The next selection on this GALE'S PRIMUS WIRE will be sent from Hooton Park, on Saturday, March 14th and

As a Special Offer to JOHN BULL readers we will send this Special Wire upon receipt of £10, instead of the usual charge of £25.

and UNLESS THE SELECTION SENT OUT IS SUCCESSFUL, AND AT REASONABLE ODDS, WE GUARANTEE TO SEND OUR NEXT TATTERSALL'S RING WIRE ENTIRELY FREE OF CHARGE. On the other hand, should the selection win at the odds of not less than 8 to 1 against, subscribers will of course, forward the balance of £15.

Note that our ONLY address is:—

"Gale's Special,"

Ruskin Buildings, Birmingham

Telegraphic Address: "WINNERS, Birmingham."

"IMPORTANT EDITORIAL ANNOUNCEMENT"

By FINDON'S WEEKLY

COMPETITORS' JOURNAL.

¶ As readers of JOHN BULL well know, a gap has been made in weekly journalism by the sudden exit of *Answers* from the competition world. Thousands of readers of the paper are suffering the pangs of disappointment because the chief and most attractive feature of *Answers*—namely, its competitions—has been withdrawn.

¶ "Findon's Weekly COMPETITORS' JOURNAL" intends to fill that gap. In other words, "Findon's Weekly COMPETITORS' JOURNAL" will provide fare equal in every way to that served up by *Answers*.

¶ "Findon's Weekly COMPETITORS' JOURNAL" will continue to cater for the competitor in popular competitions, it will give you help hints and honest advice, which will enable you the better to compete in "Bullets," "Middles," "Heads or Tails," and "Triplets." In addition, it will give advice to all competitors in THE GREAT PICTURE PUZZLE CONTESTS with Life Pension Prizes!

¶ The space devoted to these features will be in no way diminished, but added to them will be features of general interest which ex-readers of *Answers* will find wonderfully entertaining.

¶ Some of our new features will include A GREAT SERIAL, written by one of the best writers of the day, "Without Prejudice," by "Lothario," a man who is in constant touch with the best sources of information, and a weekly page, entitled "THINGS WHICH ARE BEING KEPT QUIET," written by a well-known journalist who is in a position to tell the world facts which seldom come to light.

¶ "Findon's Weekly COMPETITORS' JOURNAL" offers over £100 per week for clever "Boomerangs"; full particulars will be found in current issue. It also has an attractive football competition, and next week it will start THE GREATEST WEEKLY PUZZLE ever invented, with a substantial WEEKLY cash prize attached to it.

FINDON'S WEEKLY COMPETITORS' JOURNAL

will supply you with all *Answers* supplies you with—and very much more. It is a case of David and Goliath over again. HELP THE YOUNGSTER BY BUYING THE PAPER THIS WEEK—AND EVERY WEEK.

It can be obtained at W. H. Smith's, Wymans'—in fact, every live newsagent has a good supply weekly. If any difficulty is experienced in procuring the paper send a post card (which will receive prompt attention) to—

The Competitors' Journal,

Publishing Dept., BROWNLOW HOUSE, HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON.

Specimen Copy Sent Willingly on Receipt of a Halfpenny Stamp.

One Penny. Every Wednesday.

ORDER NEXT WEEK'S COPY NOW.

Bull's Eyes.

Notes of Interrogation :—

Is this your lucky week? See page

Won't *Answers* soon discover that it doesn't?

Wasn't Winston Churchill always a bit of a flier?

Will Tom Mann get a warm reception in South Africa?

Doesn't Bandsman Blake wish he had "aimed a little lower"?

Hasn't South African cricket been rather severely "Tested"?

Does the English use of more soap imply more "dirty linen"?

Won't there be a redistribution of seats at the next General Election?

Did the Welsh Nonconformist deputation get any change out of the Premier?

Is Dr Clifford the only one who would like to see Lloyd George "canonised" immediately?

* * *

Muddled Howlers :—

"What's in a name?" as the Private Bar said when it admitted the Public.

"This is a treat," as the nut said when it fell among the peaches.

"No, madam, I relies on my tips," said the waiter, when asked if he had any celery.

"So I see," said the curate, when a pretty young widow wished him 'Good Mourning.'"

"That s mine when you've done with it," roared the jealous husband to a looking-glass.

"We all go the same way home," shouted the bread as it entered the sausage machine.

"The proof of the pudding is in the eating," as pa whispered when he returned his portion to ma.

"Mine will be a wasted life," as the corset said, when it entered a parcel for immediate dispatch.

* * *

"You have the prettiest little mouth, dear, that I have ever seen."

"Yours certainly comes next," she murmured shyly—and it did.

* * *

Eve did not bother about her toilet till she met the Devil.

* * *

Superstition decorates life and robs death of its grotesqueness.

* * *

We read of a man eating 144 eggs at a sitting. A gross feeder.

* * *

A report says that London is more sane. Our circulation *is* increasing.

* * *

The Currie at Leith Burghs proved a little too hot for the Government.

* * *

It is by heart-strings alone that men can be pulled—and it is only women who can do it.

* * *

A man who was cut severely by a barber, agreed to accept £50 compensation. A slice of luck.

* * *

It was stated that two burglars were regular church worshippers. After the plate, we suppose.

* * *

"The world is full of ways," says Robert Herrick. Yes, it is the means that are scarce.

* * *

"It is easy to run into debt," says J. D. Rockefeller. But he doesn't get much credit for anything!

* * *

A motorist has been fined for using a motor horn which emitted a sound like the squeal of a pig. A road hog.

* * *

There is no truth in the rumour that the new arms for the Southend County Borough will be a mudl k reversed.

* * *

The English militant woman now considers herself the equal of man in a few things, and his superior in everything else.

* * *

The Amalgamated Press is issuing "The Family Encyclopædia of Medicine." It would be interesting to know their remedy for Bullet wounds.

* * *

The Times' dramatic critic wants to know the meaning of the verb "to biff." He had better "slate" a play and call on the author.

* * *

A recent fog in London was described by the *Mail* as "a huge, rather dirty table cloth." Suggesting the preparation of the pea-soup, we suppose.

Printer's Pie.

(The Work of the "Devil.")

Daily Mirror :—

King George is, and always has been, a great sportsman. . . . Employing one barrel, he killed A BIRD SIXTY YARDS HIGH.

Electric Appliances Co., Ltd., advertisement :—

"One servant with an 'Imperial' Cleaner can remove every particle of dust from A ROOM in the same time that she would OTHERWISE take to clean THE WHOLE HOUSE."

"Penny Pictorial" :—

"In a trice, Duff stripped off his silk muffler and knotted it securely round the kicking legs, rolled the baron ON HIS BACK and, KNEELING ON HIS SPINE, pressed the arms backwards and pinioned them with a handkerchief."

"Birmingham Weekly Post" recipe :—

"To make a rose for the centre (of pastry). TAKE OFF YOUR THUMB, hold firmly in the left hand, and with a sharp, dry knife dipped in flour cut a clear cross over it right down as far as where you squeezed it for the stalk."

"Burton Evening Gazette" advertisement :—

"To let, FREE OF RENT, Rates, and Gas excellent commodious house, good garden, convenient situation. Write Box 795, 'Gazette' Office, Burton."

"Nugget Library" :—

"The man turned WHITE AS A LEAF."

"Cromer and North Norfolk Post." Report of speech by Mr. H. S. Foster :—

"He might remind them that he had the pleasure of TENDING HIS BAR in the Bethnal Green election and that during the twelve hours polling it CARRIED MORE ELECTORS than was represented in the Unionist majority."

"Staffordshire Sentinel" advertisement :—

"Lost, Black Shiny Exercise Book, containing particulars of DANCES BETWEEN Newcastle Station and Liverpool Road, about 5.30 Monday. Reward on returning to Police Station, Newcastle."

"Manchester Evening News" report :—

"The Bench decided that Dorber was GUILTY, and deferred sentence UNTIL THE CASE HAD BEEN HEARD."

"Christian Globe" of February 26th :—

"League of Good Turns. A gift will be sent to the first application EACH MONDAY MORNING DURING FEBRUARY."

"North-East Kent Times" report of summons against motor-cyclist for riding without a light :—

"Remarking that had this happened in the DAYTIME he would have imposed the full penalty, the chairman said defendant would be allowed to go upon payment of the costs."

"Daily Mail" football report :—

It was a sensational START, for Bury scored in the LAST HALF MINUTE."

"Hull Daily Mail" advertisement :—

"Holderness Road (near H. and B. Bridge) For Sale, SIX-ROOFED house, with archway, large covered-in yard, suitable for warehouse, garage, or bricklayer and joiner. Apply, Rosedene, Southcoates Lane, Holderness Road, Hull."

"South Wales Argus" report :—

"St. David's Day was celebrated at Abertillery on Monday evening, when the Welshmen of the town and district, together with their friends, DINED together at the Bush Hotel."

"Western Gazette" (Yeovil) report :—

"The bride was attired in a PALE BLUE MAUVE silk dress."

Devon and Somerset Stores (Exeter) advertisement :—

"Shoulders about 7 lbs. each, fresh CUT FROM OUR OWN BRANDED SIDES.

Half-a-crown is paid to the sender of every item published in this column. Should more than one competitor call attention to the same blunder, the amount will be forwarded to the sender of the first letter opened. In the case of newspaper cuttings sufficient must be forwarded to identify the name of the journal and date of issue. Envelopes to be marked "Printer's Pie" in the left-hand top corner.

Result of our No. 12 Football Contest. See page 35.

OUR FOOTBALL "EXCEPTION" WEEK.

£500 FOR 6 CORRECT RESULTS!

CHOOSE YOUR OWN MATCHES!

£200 MUST BE WON

A NOVEL CONTEST

£25 FOR MAUVE COUPON MUST BE WON

The JOHN BULL Football Competitions have been phenomenally successful, and they owe a great deal of their greatness to the fact that they offer bigger prizes than any other paper or periodical. Why, then, are we having an "Exception" Week, and changing the system of our competition for one week only? It is because JOHN BULL is an Exceptional paper. This week is to be our special Bargain Week, and we are making an offer which no other paper has ever ventured to make. It is almost

MONEY FOR NOTHING.

We are, for this week only, breaking the monotony of our regular Competition, and are adding some spice and variety to our contest. Think of it, we offer you £500 for only Six Results! Moreover, it is for you to choose any six matches out of thirty. You have not to give goals. You have nothing to pay as entrance fee, and even if nobody wins the £500, somebody *must win* £200 *and* £25.

WHAT YOU HAVE TO DO.

On our coupon on page ii. of cover will be found the full list of thirty League matches to be played on Saturday, March 21st. From these you may select any six matches you choose, and if they are six matches in which six "Away" teams win the great prize will be yours. When you have selected the six games in which you think the visiting teams will win, you must put a X before each of the six. You are not to take any notice of "Home" wins or drawn games. Only against the six matches in which you think the visiting teams will win must you put your X. You must not mark more than six matches on any single coupon or else such coupon will be disqualified.

THE RULES AND COUPON will be found on Page ii. of Cover.

EASY TO WIN.

In Competition No. 12. though only twenty matches were given on our coupon, nine were won by "Away" teams whilst only six Home teams won. We are confident, consequently, that in giving you thirty matches to select from, we have evolved the simplest method imaginable to enable you to win £500. Find for yourself what you consider to be six weak home teams on the coupon. That is a task of little or no difficulty. If they are opposed to strong visiting teams, then your course is clear.

£500 FOR SIX CROSSES.

The prize of £500 will be paid to the competitor sending us an entrance form containing six correct forecasts of six matches won by visiting teams. **Should ten or twelve visiting teams win it will make no difference so long as you name any six correctly.** All we ask is that you put your X against six, and six only, matches in which you think the visitors will win. Should it happen that we do not receive an entrance form giving six correct forecasts we shall award £100 cash to the competitor whose coupon is most nearly correct. Moreover we shall pay a cash prize of £25 for the most correct Mauve Coupon taken from *Mary Bull*. This is a distinct and additional prize—a Mauve Coupon signed by a lady means that the sender has the opportunity of winning not only the £500 or the £200 prize, but also an extra £25.

TO SCOTTISH COMPETITORS.

Too long have our Scottish readers been barred from taking part in Football Competitions. They may now legally do so, and we issue a special invitation to them to prove that they are keener judges of form than their Southern brethren by winning our £500 prize. They have been so long shut out from participating in the good things offered by the JOHN BULL Football Competitions that we shall welcome them warmly to our grand "Football Exception Week" contest. Come along, now, Sandy, and see if you can beat John.

EQUAL CHANCE FOR EVERYONE.

To name six "Away" winners calls for skill, and it is the most skilful who will carry off our £500 prize. All our readers, however, start level. There is no handicap. Knowledge of football form is the surest help towards success. Study the League Tables. See which teams have been performing most indifferently at home, and which teams have shown most convincing form in "Away" games. Then form your own conclusions, and mark your six selections with a X against the six matches in which you consider victory will come to six visiting teams. Remember you must vote for only six teams on any single coupon.

FOR ONE WEEK ONLY.

We repeat what we have said above, this is our "Football Exception Week," and if you would win our £500 prize you must remember that the last day for receiving coupons is Friday, March 20th. The matches given on our coupon will be played on Saturday, March 21st, and so coupons will not be accepted after Friday, March 20th. Make a note of the date. You have a week in which to make up your mind and to mark your coupon, but, if you are wise, you will send in your coupon at once, in case you forget about it later.

ANSWERS TO QUERIES.

You may send in as many coupons as you like.

You may send JOHN BULL and *Mary Bull* coupons in the same envelope.

You may send the coupons of your friends along with your own coupons.

You may send in coupons at once, but, at any rate, post them so that they reach JOHN BULL, 25, Floral Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C., not later than Friday, March 20th.

You must not mark more than six matches on one coupon.

You must remember that your mark means that you expect the *visiting* team to win.

You must mark your coupon with a X, and not cross out the team which you think will lose.

Scottish readers may compete.

Several members of the same family may compete.

If two or more competitors tie, the prize will be divided between them.

Every coupon received by us will be carefully judged, but we do not hold ourselves responsible for letters which go astray.

The Football Competition Department is under the control of "McW.," the well-known sporting writer, late of the *Morning Leader* and the *Daily Chronicle*.

The present competition is for one week only, so send your coupons in now before you forget.

CHOOSE YOUR OWN MATCHES,
ONLY 6 OUT OF 30,
AND WIN OUR £500 PRIZE.

£25 FOR A MAUVE COUPON.

"John Bull's" Letter Bag.

[The EDITOR replies to, and has a chat with, some of his numerous correspondents.]

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Will readers, when forwarding cuttings from newspapers, take care that in each case a sufficient portion is sent to identify the name of the paper and the date of issue?

AUTHORS and ARTISTS *submitting MSS. and drawings for consideration must write name and address upon the back of their work. The Editor cannot accept any responsibility for the safe custody of MSS., etc., so forwarded, but will endeavour to return unaccepted work* WHEN STAMPED, ADDRESSED ENVELOPE IS ATTACHED TO THE MANUSCRIPT.

CORRESPONDENTS ARE REQUESTED NOT TO SEND ORIGINAL CERTIFICATES, TESTIMONIALS, ETC., *as, though every effort is made for their safe custody, they are liable to be mislaid. Copies only of such documents should be forwarded in the first instance.*

Legal Inquiries must be addressed to the Legal Editor, 98, Long Acre, W.C., and must be accompanied by a Postal Order for a Shilling.

GENERAL.

W. H. (Leyton).—Continue firing away—till you hit the bull's eye. Meanwhile, go slowly with the missus.

S. W. (Clacton).—We can give you no definite reply till we know exactly what you can tell us.

Mr. G. (Liverpool).—You are on the list.

H. H. (Brixton) AND OTHERS want us to give the *People* a "Biscuit" for stating that a woman "was found guilty in America in the *first* degree of the murder of her husband." This is, of course, a slip, but a century or so ago the murder of a husband by his wife was accounted "petty treason," the culprit being tied to a stake and then strangled and burned. The paper, therefore, was not so very far out.

"Ferret."—Your information is somewhat vague, but the matter is being carefully inquired into. As you give no address, it is impossible to return the postal order for 1s., which has, therefore, been placed to the "Human Document" Fund.

F. C. (Cardiff).—No private Member may propose anything in the nature of new taxation. As regards members of the Government "doing anything without consulting the Cabinet," your question is rather too general in its terms. No Minister may announce any Government policy without the consent of the Premier.

H. C. (Leicester).—Thanks for letting us see the communication from the notorious firm of solicitors. They have now, however, become a negligible quantity.

B. W. (Ilford) and MANY OTHERS.—We note that you have transferred the attention you recently gave to silly "Simplets" to our brainy "Bullets." Good luck!

A. E. D. (Brixton).—The pensions received by ex-Cabinet Ministers are governed by the Civil Offices (Pensions) Act, of 1869, by which a "first-class" pension, not exceeding £2,000 a year, may be granted to the First Lord of the Admiralty and all other holders of political offices remunerated with a yearly salary of not less than £5,000, subject to the recipient having served no less than four years; a "second-class" pension, not exceeding £1,200, to the holders of offices remunerated with salaries of less than £5,000 and not less than £2,000, subject to six years' service; and a "third-class" pension, not exceeding £800, to holders of offices of less than £2,000 and more than £1,000, subject to service of not less than ten years.

G. F. H. (Southborough).—Mr. John Gulland's diatribe against newspaper competitions, published some weeks back in the *Daily News*, was full o inaccuracies and fanatical spite against a legitimate form of recreation. But that is his profession.

J. C. (Pontypridd).—If, in spite of your having remitted 21s to the Lancashire Clothing Club, they have not yet sent you the bale of goods, issue a summons against them. You can obtain one at your local Court.

"A Regular Reader" asserts that it is impossible for the drivers to use the foot-brakes on at least 200 of the motor omnibuses now running in London. The authorities ought to put their foot down.

L. A. B. (Acock's Green).—We are continually warning our readers against the Lancashire Clothing Club and other equally ambiguous advertisers. See reply to "J. C." above.

"Abergele" (North Wales).—It seems very mean and uncharitable of the vicar to refuse to distribute the gifts among the poor, as the Liberal member asked him to do. Of the vicar's motives we know nothing.

C. E. W. (Recard) would like to know where Chas. Elkin, of 198, Brixton Hill, S.W., has flown. She says that, as a picture palace pianist, she sent money to him for music, but cannot get it, and that letters are returned from the Post Office.

S. Wm. R. (Bow).—Don't believe in "can't" in that sense. Besides, the "randy rector" is an old man.

Nellie (Gateshead).—"Teacher: 'Who is the patron saint of England?' Scholar: 'Lloyd George.'" That's another story, dearie; and a very old one, too.

"Willing" (Bradford).—If you have a job as overlooker and your wife one as a warper, we do not advise you to emigrate to New Zealand with £20. Practically the only persons wanted by the colonies are people able and willing to develop the agricultural resources of the land at their own expense.

A. E. H. (Balham).—But how did *you* "find out to your sorrow that she was tempted and fell"?

"Caution" (Glasgow).—No special information about the medical appliance in question. Consult a medical man.

A. S. (Hackney).—It is almost a case of the difference between Tweedledum and Tweedledee. "Fame" and "famous" are usually applied to personal character, and "famous cigarettes" is therefore not a combination we should use.

"Luke" (Nottingham).—"In your issue this week I notice among the prizewinners of the Football Competition a Matthew, Mark and John, but I don't see a Luke." Luke again.

"Nortonian" (Doncaster).—The reason you can "never get our paper before Thursday" is explained by the fact that we publish on Wednesdays in London and district only.

W. H. (Clapton).—We note the brigadier of the Salvation Army wouldn't allow you to exhibit your newspaper placards on the rails of the Rescue Home. Perhaps he is thinking of using them to advertise blood and fire.

J. P. H. (Hooley Hill).—We do not recommend any dealings whatever, at any price, with the enterprising genius who runs the *Matrimonial Gazette*.

"Leo" (Dalmuir).—Of all the—well, "Would you kindly tell me through your paper whether, in the event of a fire brigade with engine and an ambulance meeting, which of them would have to give way before the other?" If we had anything to do with the ambulance we should let the fire engine have the road.

H. H. S. C. (Ipswich).—It is a compliment, certainly; but we are sorry the annual meeting of the Ipswich Rosary Conservative Club removed the *Carpenter and Builder* from the reading table in order to substitute John Bull. Live and let live is our motto; with exceptions as to hanging one or two Cabinet Ministers.

Miss D. H. B. (W.K. Park).—We don't reply by letter, and your inquiries as to what other papers said about the abortive Olympic Fund are not of general interest.

"Sharpshooter" (Goldthorpe).—If M. C. Clyde, of Clyde Chambers, 73, Dunlop Street, Glasgow, refrains from sending you the silent pistol for which you sent him 9s., and will not return the 9s., the only remedy is the law, and as he is in Scotland and you are in England and you don't know whether he is worth powder and shot, it is difficult to advise you. Complain to the police. Yours is not the only case.

H. T. C. (Hemel Hempstead).—You object to the *Mail* advertisers saying "Just boil the kettle," and comment, "You can't boil a kettle." They mean "boil the water" of course.

A. H. (Walthamstow).—"Will you be so good as to tell me if there is a charity to help old people, beside 5s. from Old Age Pension?" Hundreds, probably. Whether there is one with a vacancy for you, however, is another matter.

"New Reader" (Kent).—We know nothing about them one way or another, And surely you are aware of our rule about name and address, as a guarantee of good faith?

"Firebrand."—The definition of a "grass widow" is a lady who feeds exclusively on grass while her husband is away. Sometimes she is a widow and sometimes she isn't quite sure where her husband is.

H. R. (Nottingham).—Whatever you do, don't encourage your little girl to say things like that.

W. McD. (Belfast).—No biscuit to the Belfast City Tramway Company for announcing in their cars, "No Spitting Allowed Anywhere." It is a very excellent regulation, and for all we know may be authorised by the new Provisional Government of Ulster.

Miss M. M. (Hastings).—The "Seldonite" Company certainly seem a long time sending you value for your half-crown. However, as your "coal-saver" is to be forwarded in rotation, one may rotate your way presently. Life's a mixture of woe and woe, you know.

Mrs. H. O. (Blackburn).—Thank you for letting us see the letter from your friends in Canada about the dreadful state of things.

"Bullets," the Best Judged Word Competition, with Most Prizes.

MRS. J. D. (Edinburgh).—We saw the case, and thought seriously about it. Eventually we came to the conclusion that it might be a genuine instance of mania, so we left it alone.

"FAIR PLAY" (Porthill).—Have your opinion about the *Daily Citizen*, as you prefer it.

M. H. (Abertillery).—The "Puzzle Scheme" of the Holborn Vulcanite Company, of 2, Princeton Street, W.C., is obviously an easy entertainment got up with the object of luring you to buy their fountain pens.

L. J. (N.W.).—We agree with you about the Hamiltonian bunkum as to there being nobody in England his preposterous lordship can find to manage the Great Eastern Railway's line—which is about the worst-managed line on the face of the habitable globe. What is wanted in that quarter is a clean sweep of its Chairman and fancy Directors.

"JOHNNIE" (Morley).—Draw your money. When Methuselah died he was 969 years old, at least that is alleged by Moses, the talented historian who wrote an account of his own death!

T. P. S. (Blackburn).—Dear, dear! The London Jewellery Swindlicate, of Barbican Court, London, E.C., no doubt get your signature where they probably get other people's—to wit, out of the sweepings of somebody's dust-hole.

J. E. T. (Liverpool).—Can we advise you what steps to take in reference to a letter sent to you by Stuart and Ward, 284a, Scovell Road, London, S.E., asking for cash to conduct inquiries about an "announcement concerning a sum of unclaimed money which will possibly prove of interest of you"? Of course we can. Cast Stuart and Ward's letter into the fiery furnace.

MARY A. D. (Southsea).—Yes, the vicar had legal authority to prohibit the artificial wreath being placed on the grave. Many other vicars raise similar objections, while others do not even draw the line at the decoration of graves with jampots and lobster tins.

J. L. B. (Granville Square).—'Please give me the one I met at Plumstead." But how should we know the one you met at Plumstead? What colour hair was she wearing at the time?

J. W. (Seedley).—Of course, if some money has been left you by an uncle, by all means proceed to get it. Judging by their letter, however, you will probably discover the fact to be that Messrs. Thomas Wilson and Co., 56, Queen Street, Cardiff, the inquiry agents, wish you to leave some money with them.

A. S. (Stogumber).—We note that the Vicar of Bicknoller, Taunton, will let his vacant cottage at Bicknoller only to churchpeople. Evidently he is in search of tenants who will also contribute to the church collections.

C. H. (Lymington).—Never eaten Guava jelly, or any other sort. It is such—well, didn't the lady in the play call it wibbly-wobbly stuff?

A. G. L. (Sheffield).—Good sir, you are only one of 6,410 people who have invented a hatpin protector and desire us to find somebody to finance it. Why not put the point to your friends?

G. K. B. (Peckham).—You are "thinking of sending a lad to Australia through the Church Army Emigration Department, they ask for £2 down and the balance by instalments 12s. 6d., all found"; and you ask us "whether everything is straightforward." It is a profit-making emigration agency, that is all we know, and you can only test its undertakings by its results.

F. J. C. (Walthamstow).—Women are very foolish over these matters, and you were wise in stopping your wife making purchases of tea at 2s. a lb. under the scheme of the Public Tea Company of London, 16, London Street, Greenwich, S.E.

"HETTIE" (Birmingham).—Yes, Kingsley and Co., of 8, Holborn House, Gray's Inn Road, are another firm of alleged heir-tracers, who circularise people on the strength of a surname with the object of taking cash out of your pocket, and transferring it to their own.

ELLEFF "(Bolton).—Your "quotation" from Deuteronomy 21, ver. 10-14, "If thou seest a maiden in thine enemy's camp whom thou desirest, take her unto thee, and if after thou hast had thy desire she pleases thee not, turn her adrift, but," etc., is ludicrously wrong. "That thou wouldest have her to thy wife" is the point of it. And what's the matter with "Splendid Kiel butter, 1s. 2d. per lb.; equal to best when no better quality is kept"? We regard it as an unique example of commercial candour.

S. J. (Chatham).—"Williams and Lloyd," 89, Cornwallis Road, Upper Holloway, London, N., are notorious for the shady business you denounce. You say "their advertisement gives you the impression that they are a large jewellery firm, when you are really dealing with one man who has a dirty little house at 89, Cornwallis Road and does nothing in the line but get rid of cheap stuff." Readers should note.

E. Y. E. (Perth).—Have nothing to do with "the person who addresses himself as Dr. C. G. Percival, 43, Gray's Inn Road, London, W.C.," in regard to treatment for your eyes. Consult a specialist.

"ANXIOUS" (Lewisham).—The firm was dragged up to court not long ago in a case of forcible entry in most aggravating and cruel circumstances; otherwise we have not any special knowledge of the way they treat their customers.

H. H. (Ladywell).—You think "it is high time something was done in favour of the retail meat trade; the whole of the wholesale trade is now in the hands of the Beef Trust, and nearly all the meat is frozen or chilled." Quite so we have here and there a steak in the business ourselves, and occasionally we find it is likewise as tough as any proposition we have ever tackled. Better send along your bone of contention to the editor of the *Butchers' Bulletin and Refrigerators' News*.

J. C. F. (Richmond Road, N.E.).—Thanks for your letter, but we have frequently exposed the tricks of W. Plant and Co., the incandescent gas mantle concern, now of 1, Rathbone Street, Liverpool.

"DOMESTIC SERVANT" (Byfleet).—Consult a reliable doctor about your eyes instead of wasting money on "quack "remedies," which are more likely to do harm than good.

C. B. G. (Clifton).—We are glad our warning prevented your sending £1 to Hugh McKean, the Yankee mail-order trickster. His "answer" to our criticisms is no answer. You may depend upon it that if we were not justified in our condemnation we should soon, and properly, be called upon by him to defend an action for libel.

J. W. (Pontardawe).—Ask the G.P.O. to let you know who cashed the postal order which you say you sent to the Editor of the *Trotting World and Horse Review*.

C. L. (Yapton).—If you think the last two words of the sentence, "Hurting us no more than he can help" are bad English, and should be "can't help," we are sorry. But we can't help your idea of the English idiom.

"REGULAR READER" (London, E.C.).—We are sorry that the grave, in Abney Park Cemetery, of the mother of your lady friend was robbed of a marble tablet, but we fail to see what we can do in the matter.

C. E. W. (Hereford).—We daresay a good many other doctors attending confinements would be glad to receive the assurance given by the coloured husband you mention, namely, that he always paid C.O.D.

"PERSEVERING BULLETER" (Nuneaton).—We have read your verses on the Wreck of the *Titanic*, and can only express the hope that you will be more successful with your "Bullets" than you are with your poetry.

Miss E. R. (Manchester).—The majority of the agents who advertise berths for stewards and stewardesses on ocean liners are fee-snatchers, and should be shunned. Apply direct to the shipowners. But your chances are small unless you have influence.

G. E. (East Ham).—You should not be misled by such things. The ad. says, "to all approved customers." It is not to their interest to approve you as a customer, as in the cases of thousands of others. You should thank your lucky stars that they have returned your deposit.

T. G. (Pontypridd).—Our advice to you is to avoid all advertising tricksters, of whom the Ostrich Feather Emporium, Barbican Court, London, E.C., is one.

MRS. M. B. (Dowlais).—If you were a "regular" and attentive reader you would not need to ask us for information about the "lucky stone" charlatan, "Captain Rand."

E. C. (Mission City, B.C.).—"The Englishman to-day suffers too much from swelled head and when he gets out here is brought up with a hard jolt when he finds other nationalities breed just as good men and, I am sorry to say, much better men in some cases, than himself." We agree there's nothing like being well-bred; but of course neither an Englishman nor anybody else can live by bread alone.

A. B. (Pontypridd).—Mr. Lloyd George is not a Welshman born; he first saw the light at Manchester, in 1863.

C. J. G. (Southampton).—We note that after some months' delay you have received the return of your deposit from the Alhambra Warehouse Company, Free Street, Bradford, Yorks, after threatening them with proceedings within 48 hours. This is the ultimatum we recommend in similar cases.

W. G. M. (Clapton).—"Are not the descendants of the orange-women of Drury Lane to be found in the House of Lords, or at any rate among the Upper Ten?" Shush! You will give the descendants of Nell Gwynn the pip. For the rest, don't prattle like a baby.

W. S. C. (Toronto).; H. F (Montreal); D. O (Barnfield, B.C.); W. S. (Toronto); W. L. (Outremont, Mont.); A. W. B. (Calgary); "Ken Can" (Can); R. M. (Toronto); J. T. D. (Winnipeg), and MANY OTHERS.—The Canadian newspapers you send us establish beyond a doubt the fact that, from one end of the Dominion to the other, the streets are full of unemployed, the greater number of them men willing to work at anything but unable to find a job. Always glad to hear from you.

A Fortune for Nothing! See the Amazing Prize Offer on page 27.

LEGAL.

"WALLINGFORD."—A wife cannot obtain a divorce unless she can prove that her husband has deserted her for at least two years, and that he has also been guilty of cruelty or adultery. If she obtains an Order of the Court for "Restitution of Conjugal Rights," she need not wait for two years, but to obtain such an Order is expensive. As the law stands at present, it is practically impossible for a poor person to obtain relief. An undefended case costs about £40. If she is not worth £25 she could proceed in *forma pauperis*, but before doing so she would have to find a solicitor who would act for her without payment, and he would have to obtain a certificate from a barrister stating that she has good ground for action. There would still remain, however, the cost of bringing her witnesses to London when the case was ready for hearing. The law may be amended shortly, so that poor persons may get fair play.

"WAITRESS" (Hackney).—Your employer need not pay you wages when you are absent through illness. He was entitled to deduct a full day's pay, although it was the day upon which you were entitled to the half-holiday; but it was certainly mean of him to have done it.

"AN INTERESTED READER."—A woman who does not work and is not strong cannot insure herself in the State Insurance; but she could join a Friendly Society—if she could find one that would take her in such circumstances.

"ANXIOUS" (Plymouth).—The leaseholder can remove the sign from his premises unless there is a term in the lease to the contrary.

E. M. H. (Wilts).—If the lady signed an order for 125 cards only, she need not pay for more, but the canvasser probably inserted the larger number in the order form. If she can satisfy the Court that this was dishonestly done she would win the case, but having regard to the fact that she would have to come to London to defend the proceedings, it might be cheaper to come to some arrangement with the firm.

W. (Norwood).—You are liable to a penalty of £10 for not having the agreement stamped, but it was very mean of the rate collector to send it to the Inland Revenue authorities when you gave it to him only for the purpose of having your rates reduced. It is a contemptible way of trying to distinguish himself. You had better pay the reduced penalty demanded; otherwise proceedings may be taken against you.

"OPENSHUT" (Clapham).—If a person has been tried for murder and acquitted by the jury, he cannot be tried again on the same charge in any circumstance—not even if he confesses.

"CONSTANT READER."—Illegitimacy does not prevent a person entering the Civil Service.

F. O. S. (Ipswich).—All the lady can do is to apply in the police court for a summons for assault. It might be wiser in the interest of all parties to let the matter drop, unless the man insults her again.

FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE.

A Postal Order for 1s. must accompany each Financial or Insurance Inquiry.

JOHN BULL BANK.—"PADDY."—(1) and (2) The bank has several customers in South Africa who draw cheques regularly for payment to persons in the British Isles, so it should exactly suit you. You can pay in by remitting cash in a Registered Envelope or by any other means. (3) The bank's cheques are easily cashed through any other bank or through a tradesman's account. (4) You can close the account at any time without notice.

JAMAICA COPRA AND ESTATES.—H. P. (London, S.E.).—We regard the shares as an attractive purchase.—C. R. C. (Woodford).—Yes, we think a purchase at anything like the present price should turn out satisfactory.—W. J. B. (Sutton).—Everything depends upon the amount you have available. We think you have made a good purchase.—B. M. (Ealing).—As we have already stated, we think well of the prospects of the undertaking. You can doubtless obtain further information from the Winchester Syndicate, of Winchester House, Old Broad Street, London, E.C., who are the sponsors of this undertaking.

NORTH EASTERN CONSOLS.—J. B. (Wakefield).—You do not say why, or by whom, you are "requested" to dispose of this stock. Unless there are urgent reasons we should advise you to keep it.

MALABAR ESTATES AND PLANTING.—MRS. L. (Glasgow).—We referred to this concern in our issue of February 28th, and are sorry you have put money into it. If you have not received your certificate you had better consult a solicitor about it, but we are afraid you will not get your money back.

CANADIAN AND GENERAL TRUST.—"LINDEN."—This company has tried to place some rather speculative investments, but it seems to do a legitimate business. The best in your list is National Bituminous Coal bonds.

MOTOR PETROL ASSOCIATION.—J. B. (Leeds).—We would not recommend you to invest in this concern.

STANDARD SAVINGS, LIMITED.—"KISMET" (Doncaster).—You will see that we are dealing Editorially with the matter. We are afraid, however, that you must regard your money as lost.

GRANGE OIL COMPANY.—M. S. (Wick).—We advise you to have nothing to do with the "Bottomley-Dawson" promotions.

THE DERBY LAMP WORKS.—G. H. W. D. (Eastbourne).—We have formed a favourable opinion of the scheme of reconstruction, and it should have the support of shareholders on the undertaking given in the statement issued, that the directors will not go to allotment unless a sufficient amount of working capital is received. The outlook for the lamp manufacturing industry is encouraging, and, subject to competent management and organisation, the new undertaking, when formed, appears to have an excellent opportunity of ultimately enabling the shareholders to be recouped the money previously sunk in the effort to successfully establish the original enterprise.

VARIOUS INDUSTRIALS.—C. M. M. (Maida Hill).—If you already hold the shares mentioned you should stick to them, as they are fair speculative risks. If you are an intending buyer, we prefer Appollinaris and Portland Cement Preferences.

UNION TRUST COMPANY OF CANADA.—B. E. (Bucks).—We do not recommend this as an investment.

LAW INTEGRITY INSURANCE COMPANY.—"CONSTANT READER."—The company improved its status and position by depositing £20,000 with the Government under the Life Assurance Companies Act of 1909. It is not an office we should consult for assurance purposes, but, having regard to the number of years you have held the policy, we should keep it going, if you are satisfied with their conditions.

LIVERPOOL VICTORIA FRIENDLY SOCIETY.—E. S. (Bridgwater).—A policy of the class you mention to be legal must have been taken out by or on account of the person who had at the time a *bona-fide* belief that he would incur expenses in connection with the death or funeral of the assured. You are not obliged to accept the endorsement on the policies if you did not assent to it. We think yours is a case in which a solicitor should be consulted before proceedings are commenced.

BRITISH CITIZENS' ASSURANCE COMPANY.—"HAD."—You have made a bad investment. As regards the representations which you say were made, if you consult a local solicitor, he will consider the evidence and advise respecting your prospects of success in the event of an action for recession of contract being brought.

CANADA LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.—"SELF."—We think you would be quite secure in purchasing a small annuity from them, although we are not favourably impressed with the outlook for Canadian investments.

REFUGE ASSURANCE COMPANY.—MRS. T. (Fleetwood).—The company does not grant Cash Surrender Values in connection with its industrial policies, but in respect of policies which have been in force at least five years the directors, in their discretion, may grant Free Paid Up Policies. You had better see the Local Superintendent on the matter, or, failing this, put your case in writing before the directors at the head office of the company.

UNITED NATIONAL FRIENDLY COLLECTING SOCIETY.—"CHESTERFIELD."—(1) The society was established in the year 1909, and its operations are apparently directed from Glasgow. It is authorised to transact business in England, but whether or not the jurisdiction of the English Courts extends to policyholders who may desire to enforce their legal rights depends upon the policy conditions. (2) It is not registered under the Life Assurance Companies Acts, and is not, therefore, required to lodge the £20,000 for the protection of policyholders required by the Acts mentioned. (3) The society may be regarded as being in a speculative stage of development, owing to its comparatively recent formation, as is the case with all young institutions. (4) We have no information on our file regarding its financial status, and you should, therefore, write them direct for a copy of their last issued report and balance-sheet. (5) If, as you state, claims remain unsatisfied, a solicitor should be instructed to enforce payment.

CITY LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.—W. A. (Salop).—It is a comparatively young and enterprising company, which has enjoyed a remarkable run of success. The effort to establish an Industrial Branch has, however, proved more expensive than was anticipated, but the management are aware of the necessity of proceeding cautiously with further developments in this direction, and the future outlook for the company appears to be promising. The recent quinquennial valuation revealed a satisfactory surplus. Hold the policy.

SPORTING.

Sporting inquiries must be addressed to the Sporting Editor, 52, New Broad Street, E.C.

PATRICK O'BRIEN (Lucerne).—G. C. (London, N.E.).—You need be under no apprehension as to the *bona fides* of Mr. Patrick O'Brien's Sweepstakes.—J. W. (Finsbury).—You are quite right, the prizes are confined to actual starters and "consolations." The Draw takes place on Saturday, March 21st, and the result will appear in the issue of JOHN BULL for the week ending March 28th—published on Wednesday, March 25th.

ARTHUR MURRELL (Montreux).—A. G. M. (Johannesburg).—We agree that the result sheet you send us is a travesty. We also doubt Mr. Murrell's statement that he is "officially recognised by the Swiss Government," and we should be interested to know the names of the "many well-known Sporting Press representatives" who have been invited and have signified their intention of attending the Draw.

SWEEPSTAKES.—R. J. W. (Birmingham).—The "biggest" are the John Bull Derby Sweepstake, promoted by Messrs. Smallman and Terry, Geneva; those of Mr. Patrick O'Brien, Lucerne; Mr. H. Diamond, Lucerne; The Totalisator, Lucerne; and The Turf Pool Syndicate, Geneva.

"FOOTBALL CHAT" (Kriens).—G. H. T. (Eltham).—We are obliged for the circular you send us, and note your statement that there is no gentleman of the name of H. Smith residing at your address, and who is stated by these people to have won £100. We have frequently warned our readers against them.

"LONDON MAIL" DERBY SWEEP.—A. W. G. (Kimberley, S.A.).—Yes, this is a "trustworthy concern," and we believe it to be "run on strict business lines."

JOHN BULL FOOTBALL CUP SWEEPSTAKE.—W. C. (Toronto).—We are gratified to learn that you are so satisfied, and note that you "are very pleased to be able to show some of the people here that John Bull Sweepstakes are genuine." Of course they are.

JOHN BULL DERBY SWEEP.—"INQUISITIVE."—The first prize is £25,000 with a further £25,000 divided amongst those drawing placed horses, starters, entries and consolation prizes, and every penny will be promptly paid. The reputation of the firm of Smallman and Terry, of Geneva, who are responsible for the conduct of the undertaking, is of the highest.

TURF POOL SYNDICATE (Geneva).—"POLO" MOLSHEIM.—You and your friends need not be anxious. The Sweep will be quite straight. The date of the Draw has been altered from Tuesday, March 17th, to Wednesday, March 18th, to suit the convenience of the Editor of this journal, who will supervise it.—E. J. H. (Dublin).—You have no cause for anxiety.—H. T. (Batley).—We dealt with the matter in last week's issue.—"MORKA."—You can safely disregard the "piffle" to which you call our attention.—A. H. (Balham).—Yes, we are convinced that the Sweep is genuine.—A. L. B. (Highbury).—We note you challenge Mr. Guinness's statement that the result sheets were sent out *after* the race, and assure us that you received *three* sheets some days before the race.

"Bullets," the Best Judged Word Competition, with Most Prizes:

CITY NOTES.

(For Financial and Insurance Letter-Box, see Letter Bag pages.)

The Stock Markets.

Dealers are in the dumps; there is no use denying that. But they have good reason and that must be placed to their credit. Everything seems to be going wrong and even investment business has been reduced to very small dimensions, although it is significant that the Bank of England is still buying securities and must have added quite a big packet to its portfolio since the beginning of the year. Of course it may be doing this to help to support prices, but the more feasible explanation is that it can see daylight ahead. The position in Paris is the chief bugbear, and that is caused partly by the financial troubles in Brazil, and partly by the failure to convert Balkan war bills into bonds which could be passed on to the genuine investor. So the banks are *choc-a-block* with securities which they cannot realise, and the French public are just as shy of markets as their brethren over here. The Canadian Government loan of £5,000,000 was only subscribed to the extent of 20 per cent. by the public (probably not that if the truth were known) and other issues have fared little better. Investors would therefore seem to be fed up and, speaking broadly, speculation is dead.

John Bull, Limited.

The following is the directors' report for the year 1913:—

> The directors have pleasure in submitting herewith the accounts of the company for the year 1913. It will be seen that the net profit earned during the year amounted to £40,165 15s. 4d., to which has to be added the sum of £3,857 8s. 4d., brought forward from the previous year. The total available profits therefore amount to £44,023 3s. 8d. The directors propose to write off the entire amount standing to the debit of advertising suspense account, namely, £14,093 2s. 5d., and to place a further £5,000 to reserve, bringing the total reserve to date up to £10,000. The dividend upon the preference shares for the year will absorb the sum of £3,791 13s., and the balance it is proposed to carry forward. The question of a distribution upon the ordinary shares is under consideration. The auditors, Messrs. Edmonds, Clover, and Cook, offer themselves for re-election."

Law Integrity Insurance Company.

In a recent issue a reader complained that payment of claims were being withheld, the excuse made by the agent being that the company were amalgamating with the Hearts of Oak. In fairness to the company, it is only right to mention that we have received a communication from the chairman stating that the company does not contemplate amalgamating with the Hearts of Oak or any other company, nor have negotiations for amalgamation of the company's interests been entered into. The chairman also adds: "So far as we are aware, no claims against this company are outstanding in Gloucestershire or any other part of the United Kingdom."

Royal London Mutual.

The Royal London Mutual recently defended an action brought by George Henry Reid, at the Liverpool Assizes, for breach of agreement. It appears that the plaintiff answered an advertisement and arranged to purchase a book for £20 down, and £130 for which a loan was arranged, to be repaid by 10s. per week. After two years an audit revealed a deficiency, and Reid's appointment was determined. The jury gave a verdict for plaintiff for £144. Agents generally please note.

'Ware Pioneers.

Strenuous efforts are being made to take advantage of the Russian boom to off-load the shares of the Pioneer Company of Siberia, Ltd., on the public by means of market deals. The capital of the company is £100,000 in £1 shares, of which one-half went to the Anrexpert Syndicate, for certain options to carry on mining operations in Eastern Siberia. Nothing has been heard as to any results having accrued therefrom and the latest accounts, to the end of September, 1912, show that only £1,500 in cash remained in its coffers out of the £50,000 received from the issue of its shares. Perhaps the Earl of Orkney, the Chairman of the company, will enlighten us as to the present state of its finances. The shares are not "made up" on the London Stock Exchange.

Straits Coconut and Copra Company, Limited.

Mr. L. Sydenham is now circulating a prospectus offering shares in the above company which, as we have previously pointed out, is an offshoot of the Malabar Estates and Planting Company, Limited. The capital is £85,000, and the present issue consists of 10,000 preferred shares of £1 each, 10,000 ordinary shares of 10s. each and 5,000 deferred shares of 5s. each. It is stated that the company is formed to acquire estates containing 100,000 coconut trees, land for planting an additional 130,000 trees, an option over estates containing 300,000 trees and contracts for the supply of 10,000,000 coconuts per annum, with contracts "practically settled" for the supply of a further 7,500,000 nuts per annum. The purchase price for this wonderful assortment has been fixed at £51,250, payable to the Malabar Estates and Planting Company. It is not the first time these contracts for the supply of coconuts have done duty, and considering the use made of some general observations by Sir Wm. Lever, and the way the shares have been hawked about for months past, we hope none of our readers have been foolish enough to put money into the concern.

Northern Territory of Australia.

Here's bad news for the croakers! According to the majority report of the Royal Commission on the Northern Territory, "the metalliferous areas" of the country "are of enormous extent" and "have a wide distribution." If you see it ——!

Standard Savings, Limited.

This concern started in 1904 with offices in Central Chambers, Acresfield, Bolton, afterwards moving to the aristocratic address of 68, St. James's Street, Pall Mall, where its career, so far as can be traced, seems to have come to an end. For a time it worked the "premium bond" game with some success, and it probably entrapped many victims. The experience of a lady correspondent is interesting. She took up two bonds, on which she paid 10s. monthly for eight years in the expectation that when she had paid £62 10s. in all (125 instalments) she would receive £50 for each bond. As a fact she paid up £50 before her suspicions were aroused; then she wrote to the secretary and in April last was informed by him that as the affairs of the company were being rearranged she need send no further instalments until she heard again. After that the silence of the grave, even solicitor's letters failing to elicit any response. Have any others of our readers had a similar experience with the concern?

Jamaica Copra and Estates.

In our last issue we dealt with the result of our inquiries as to the present position of this undertaking. As we go to press we learn that a report has been received from the manager, who, as we have already stated, is a gentleman of great experience in Jamaica, in which he confirms the optimistic utterances of the chairman at the recent meeting. The production of coconuts; under business management, is undoubtedly a paying proposition, and, from the information which reaches us, the estates controlled by this company should amply justify their acquisition.

Pull Baker, Pull Devil.

We have a good deal of sympathy with Albert Baker and Co., Ltd., in the unfortunate position in which it finds itself. Last year the directors found the arrangement with the great Imperial Tobacco Company becoming intolerable, and they consequently decided to terminate it. The immediate result is seen in a drop in the net profits from £5,800 to £900. But the profits had been steadily dwindling since 1908 and something had to be done. We are inclined to applaud the courage that threw down the challenge to the giant monopoly—for it almost amounts to that—and we are sorry that it has not met with a better reward. Other independent firms are also suffering to a greater or less extent, and although the public here, fortunately, have not much experience of the methods of monopolists, if they fully realised the position they would probably extend more cordial support to the outsiders before it is too late. So far the Imperial Company has not greatly abused its power, but there is no saying what might happen if all opposition were effectively crushed.

£500 for 3 Smart Words. See "Bullets." page 38.

"BULLETS" GOING STRONG!

BIGGEST PRIZE-LIST IN ANY COMPETITION.

5,073 Prizes, value £1,562, to be Won Weekly.

First Prize. **£500** **First Prize.**

2nd Prize	3rd Prize	20 Prizes of	50 Prizes of
£50	£25	£2-10-0	£1 EACH.

500 PRIZES OF 5s. AND **2,500 PRIZES OF 2/6**

2,000 OTHER HANDSOME PRIZES.

Bullets can only be constructed from any of these 40 Examples:—

PREPARING FOR DISSOLUTION
WAKING BABY
WAITING FOR WORK
CHURCH MISSIONS
SIGNING THE COVENANT
DOCTOR'S ADVICE
A GOOD SHOP
BARE REALITIES
THE FINISHING TOUCH
TAKING OCCUPATION
THE PLAIN TRUTH
GETTING ON
A DARING MOVE
EXCESS FARE
UNDEVELOPED LAND
NOT STRONG ENOUGH
BAREFACED ROBBERY
NO FOLLOWERS
MY FONDEST HOPE
NEW SPELLING
MAN OF PROMISE
NO ING STAIRCASE
HER RIVAL
THE LAST DROP
WHO'S MASTER
FIRST APPEARANCE
A ROUSING RECEPTION
EYES SHUT
SUNDAY PAPERS
HER SECOND HUSBAND
NEVER AMISS
TRAVELLERS' TALES
NINEPENCE FOR FOURPENCE
MUSICAL HONOURS
SOMETHING ON
MAKING ALLOWANCES
TWO TO ONE
SPELLS DISASTER
FAVOURITE TOPIC
COMMON INFORMER

3,073 CASH PRIZES THIS WEEK.

HOW TO MAKE BULLETS.

First choose any of our forty examples. Then give two words or three words having some bearing on the example chosen. The FIRST AND LAST word selected MUST begin with ANY OF THE LETTERS in the example chosen. If three words are selected any word can be used as the middle word.

For instance, if you take the example "A DARING MOVE," and take the letters "D" and "G," using the word "to" as the middle word, you can make the Bullet "DICTATING TO GOVERNOR." From the example "NEVER AMISS" the Bullet "APPRECIATIVE REMARKS" can be formed.

Again, if you choose the example "SPELLS DISASTER," using the letter "T" as initial for both the first and last word, you can form the Bullet "TOMMY FINDS TOADSTOOL."

Competitors may send in two BULLETS on one coupon for sixpence. But if both coupons are used a postal order for one shilling must be sent.

Competitors who have already won any prizes, large or small, in this competition, are in no way debarred from winning again.

The ink will not run if the coupon is slightly warmed before being used.

Competitors can see the "Bullets" Judges at work at any time.

Closing date, Wednesday, March 18th.

Example .....

Bullet .....

Example .....

Bullet .....

(76) P.O. No. .....

I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on page 39.

Signed .....

Address .....

A Sixpenny P.O. Must Accompany this Coupon.

Not more than three words may be used to construct a Bullet.

This week's Bullets Coupons will also be found in "MARY BULL" dated March 21st.

Closing date, Wednesday, March 18th.

Example .....

Bullet .....

Example .....

Bullet .....

(76) P.O. No. .....

I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on page 39.

Signed .....

Address .....

A Sixpenny P.O. Must Accompany this Coupon.

If Both Coupons Are Used a Postal Order for 1/- Must be Sent.

ENVELOPES SHOULD BE MARKED "BULLETS NO. 76," "JOHN BULL," LONG ACRE, LONDON, W.C.

Write "COMPETITION" on top left hand corner of Envelope.

The Result of this Competition will appear in our issue dated April 4th.

For Rules, etc., see opposite page.

RESULT OF 73RD BULLETS COMPETITION.

FIRST PRIZE OF £50:—

Mr. ERNEST A. CHAPMAN,
106, Llevane Street, Cardiff.

Example:—LONGEST RUN.
Bullet:—OUR OFFICE TOWEL.

SECOND PRIZE OF £50:—

Mrs. W. WILSON,
72, Gloucester Place,
Portman Square, London, W.

Example:—FULL OF HOPE.
Bullet:—PAWNBROKER—STRIKE EXPECTED.

THIRD PRIZE OF £25:—

Mrs. C. SIMS,
1, Eastbourne Villas,
Claremont Road, Bath.

Example:—SEAT OF TROUBLE.
Bullet:—SUBSCRIPTIONS SELDOM REACH.

20 Prizes of £2 10s. Awarded as follows: £2 10s. each to:—

Mr. L. ELLINGTON, 42, Queen St., Haverhill, Cambridge:
PUT UP AFFAIR—ACTRESS'S LEG FREQUENTLY.
Mr. W. J. HAIN, Steward, Liverpool Racquet Club, L'pool:
WELL IN FRONT—"LL" IN WALES.
Mr. C. H. CHEVERST, 47, Thorngate Rd., Elgin Avenue, W.:
DIVIDED ATTENTION—SWEETHEART AND TAXIMETER.
Mr. E. GOATER, 1, Longstock, Stockbridge, Hants.:
DOSE ON—MOTORIST—MAKES MANY.
Mr. I. M. O. TWISS, "Hollington," St. John's Road, Putney Hill, S.W.:
UNCLAIMED TREASURE—COVER NUMBER NEGLECTED.
Mr. H. GILL, 48, Albert Road, Morecambe:
SLOW GAME—OVERTAKING A LIE.
Mr. F. MCQUILLAN, 117, Walthew Lane, Platt Bridge, Wigan:
TYPIST'S MISTAKE—INCREASES RUBBER INDUSTRY.
Mr. H. PASS, 22, McDowall Road, Camberwell Green S.E.:
VERY PRETTY—RECENT "FLEETWAY" PIETY.
Mr. J. WILDMAN, 30, Brookland Terrace, Newmarket Road, Ashton-under-Lyne.
GOOD SERVANT—TO VICE—ENVIRONMENT.
Mr. E. B. ELLWOOD, 43, Thorpe End, Melton Mowbray:
WHEN FIRST MARRIED—ABODE OF LOVE.
Mr. T. J. MITCHELL, 34, Oakwood Rd., Brynmill, Swansea:
DOCK'S MISTAKE—SEX DETERMINES PENALTY.
Mr. F. C. LOCKMAN, 4, Laburnam Villas, Urmston, Lancs:
UNCLAIMED TREASURE—DEPARTED'S WOODEN LEG.
Mr. A. WILKEY, 10, Lecdie Street, Dundee:
MOST PEOPLE DISLIKE—PAWNBROKER'S NOD—OUTSIDE.
Mr. W. C. BERGUM, 20, Rattray Road, Brixton, S.W.:
BOARD OF TRADE—EASY, ITS DISEASE.
Mr. N. MATTHEWS, 64, Victoria Road, Bedford:
CHORUS OF ALL—GUILD MUSICIANS AVOID.
Mr. W. LEWIS, 6, Baden Powell Road, Sneinton, Nottingham:
THE WORST MAN—WINSTON—TO WAIT.
Mr. S. D. HOLMES, 10, Deveraux Drive, Seacombe, Cheshire:
BABY'S FIRST TOOTH—BED BECOMES SEDLAM.
Mr. W. SMART, 27, Gloag Place, West Calder, Midlothian:
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ARMSTRONG, 1, The Gardens, West Point, Whalley Range, Manchester.
BAILEY, W., 13, Hesketh Lane, Prestwich, Manchester.
BARNES, H., 28, Grafton Terrace, Kentish Town, N.W.
BARNES, F., Nos. 5, Nobbs Lane, St. Thomas St., Portsmouth.
BERRY, Mrs., 14, Grosvenor Drive, New Brighton, Cheshire.
BETTELEY, H., 54, The Crescent, Dimsdale Parade, Wolstanton, Stoke-on-Trent.
BILLINGHAM, V., 15, Brighton Place, Portobello, Edinburgh.
BROOME, A. E., Tramway Employees Club, Hartshead, Sheffield.
BROOKS, A., Egton, Grosmont S.O., Yorks, N.R.
BURKE, R. C., 20, Victoria Grove, Folkestone.
CLINTON, H. G., Police Constable, Borough Police, Red Lion Street, Wolverhampton.
DODDS, J., 41, Shields Road, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
DRAKE, C., 84, Glenelon Road, Streatham, S.W.
FOWKES, E. A., 26a, Leicester Road, Bedworth, near Nuneaton.
FRIER, A., 9, Granville Terrace, Tower Hamlets, Dover.
FROST, D. B., 59, Sydney Street, Chelsea, S.W.
GIBSON, T., 26, Richard Street, Jarrow-on-Tyne.
GOLD, F., 57, Westcroft Square, Hammersmith, W.
HALSALL, W., 93, Oxford Street, St. Helens, Lancs.
HARGREAVES, T., P.C. Central Police Station, Bootle, Liverpool
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HEWITT, G., 220, Milburn Road, Seaton-hirst, Ashington, Northumberland.
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LLOYD, F., Pensioner, Gate Office, R.N. Bks., Chatham, Kent.
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MACLEOD, D. A., 31, Cyril Mansions, Battersea Park, S.W.
MCLACHLAN, T., 67, Abbotsford Place, Glasgow, S.S.
MAULE, A., 3, Styleman Terrace, Hunstanton.
MCCRACKEN, S., Richmond Asylum, Dublin.
MILLS, C., 17, Victoria Street, Landport, Hants.
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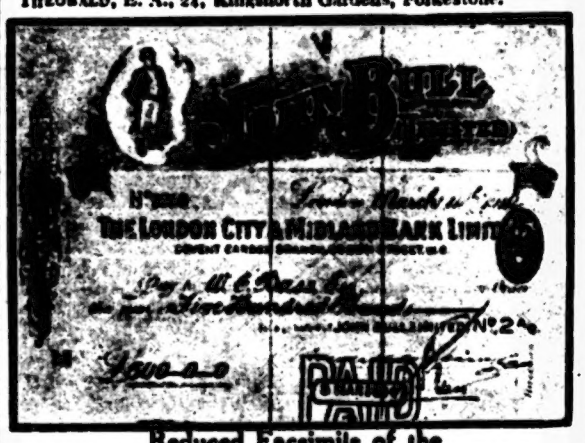
NEWTON, F., 14, Clarence Place, Newtown, Bristol.
OLDHAM, J. B., 25, Midland Street, Shoreham Street, Sheffield.
PICKFORD, J. G., 15, Bannermill Road, Aberdeen, Scotland.
REES, A. E., 75, Blaenewm Terrace, Treherbert, Glam.
ROBERTS, C. C., Ivylene, Witham, Essex.
ROPER, A., 139, Witton Road, Birmingham.
SALMON, E., Mrs., 115, Minard Road, Hither Green, S.E.
SMITH, C., 33, Birchwood Lane, Somercotes, near Alfreton, Derbyshire.
STEAD, E. E., Mrs., 14, Granville or Ormville Street, Heckmondwike, Yorks.
THEOBALD, E. A., 24, Kingsnorth Gardens, Folkestone.



Reduced Facsimile of the
£500 "BULLETS" CHEQUE
Paid to Last Week's FIRST PRIZEWINNER.

The original of the above cheque will be on view at the premises of Messrs. Gilchrist Bros., 74, Fulham Palace Road, S.W., from Wednesday, March 11th, to Saturday, March 14th; and Mr. H. George, 177, Dawes Road, Fulham, S.W., from Monday, March 16th, to Wednesday, March 18th.

Selection of 5s. Prize Winners:

Abbott, A., 29, Robert-st., Pentre, Glam.
Abraham, A. J., Electricity Works, Aberdare, Glam.
Acton, C., Norton Bridge, nr. Stone, Staffs.
Acton, J., Mill Hill-rd., Cowes, I.O.W.
Adams, A., Lc.-Corpl., 3rd Br. Coldstream Guards, Chelsea Barracks.
Adie, J., 28, Gateside-st., Hamilton, N.B.
Aitchison, J., Head of Muir, Denny, Scotland.
Aitken, G., Springburn, New-rd., Portncawl.
Alleby, J. L., 112, St. Leonard-st., Sunderland.
Allen, G., 16, Haverlcck-rd., Biggleswade, Beds.
Amor-Williams, Capt. V. D., 8, Pelham-rd., Wimbledon, S.W.
Anderson, J. C., 20, Fitzwilliam-st West, Huddersfield.
Andrew, Nurse R., The Infirmary, Horsham, Sussex.
Appleton, C. S., Hayes, Paignton.
Arlington, M., 13, Long Garden-walk, Farnham, Surrey.
Armstrong, A. P., 3, Bankside-ave., Johnstone, Scotland.
Ashley, J., Chapel House, Castle-st., Tredegar.
Ashworth, Mrs. S., Photographer, Northwich.
Atkins, Mrs. R., Wattville, Reigate.
Aubrey, C., c.o. W. Aubrey, Hill View, Sission-rd., Barnwood, Gloucester.
Austin, J., The Railway Clearing House, Euston-sq., N.W.
Banbury, B., 21, Boswell-st., Eastville, Bristol.
Banks, A., Russney Meds House, Broad-st., Barry Dock.
Barradell, A., 21, Cross-st., Loughborough.
Barrett, H., 125, Upper Tooting-rd., S.W.
Barter, T., 87, Ethel-st., Canton, Cardiff.
Bartlett, L. J., 4, Brights-ter., Street, Somerset.
Bayliss, Miss K., 73, Arodene-rd., Brixton Hill, S.W.
Bayliss, Miss N., 12, Worcester-rd., Evesham, Worcs.
Beadle, W., 33, Bonchurch-st., Fosse-rd., Leicester.
Beagley, R., 12, Clyde-st., Sheerness, Kent.
Beardmore, W., 347, Claremont-rd., Rusholme, Manchester.
Beattie, A., 48, Clifford-st., Ibrox, Glasgow.
Beesley, S., 166, Dunstans-rd., E. Dulwich, S.E.
Birch, F. W., Bridge st., Belper, Derbys.
Birkbeck, J., 3, Thorpe-st., Old Trafford, Manchester.
Bishop, H. G., Elm Villa, Park-cres., Milton, Portsmouth.
Blaby, H. G., 78, Long Millgate, Manchester.
Blake, G. T., Fire Station, Old Kent-rd., S.E.
Blakey, J., 103, Pump-row, Framwellgate Moor, nr. Durham.
Borer, A., The Sanatorium, Foxhall-rd., Ipswich
Botterill, Mrs. A., The Cottage, Spring Lodge, Barnard Cast'e.
Botting, G. W., Electricity Works Buxton, Derby.
Botwood, Miss M., 28, Trinity-rd., Birchfield, Birmingham.
Bowdoss, S. W., 339, Elswick-rd., Newcastle-on-Tyne.
Boyd, W. A., 432, Edge-lane, Droylesden, Manchester.
Bradley, J., Middletown, Co. Armagh, Ireland.

"BULLETS" RULES. (*which must be strictly adhered to*).

1. The First Prize will be awarded for what, in the opinion of the Judges, in consultation with the Editor, is the best "Bullet" received, and the other prizes in order of merit, the test being cleverness, aptness and originality. A careful study of the winning efforts from week to week will also indicate the standard of merit to be attained. The right to divide a prize or prizes among two or more competitors is reserved.

2. Bullets must be plainly written on one of the coupons on page 33, and only two attempts may be written on each coupon.

3. Both coupons may be used, but each coupon must be accompanied by a postal order for 6d. made payable to JOHN BULL and crossed ——— & Co. Competitors must write their names and addresses, and the date ——— of sending the order on the back of the postal order, the number of which must be duly noted on each coupon submitted. Competitors sending more than one coupon may enclose one postal order for the full amount covering the number of their coupons. Stamps will not be accepted.

4. Coupons must not be defaced in any manner, or have portions of another coupon pasted upon them.

5. Entries must reach us not later than the first post on the morning of Wednesday, March 18th.

6. The Editor undertakes that every Bullet received shall have careful consideration by a competent staff of qualified judges.

7. The Editor's decision on any matter of dispute arising in connection with this competition must be accepted as final and legally binding in all respects and acceptance of this rule is an express condition of entry.

No element of chance enters into the adjudication of our "Bullets" Competition. Every coupon is judged by TWO DIFFERENT Members of our special staff of Adjudicators, who have been elected by reason of their high qualification for this work. This staff put aside all coupons which they consider sufficiently meritorious to qualify for a prize. So that, before any coupon is rejected, TWO DIFFERENT Judges have to decide that it is not of sufficient merit to receive a prize. Then, all coupons selected are considered by the Competition Editor in consultation with the Judges. In this manner the coupons are reduced in number to correspond with the total number of prizes to be awarded. The Competition Editor, again in consultation with the Judges, next selects all the lines of outstanding merit. These are placed before the Editor, who, after consultation, decides finally the order of merit. This system of judging keeps a large staff of Adjudicators continually occupied the whole of the week—so thoroughly is the work done. We would point out that, by this system of judging, no award is decided arbitrarily by one mind. It is only after a line has been considered sufficiently meritorious by a BODY OF JUDGES IN CONSULTATION, all of whom are specially qualified for the work, that it can receive a cash or any other prize. As regards the principal prizes, the coupons of outstanding merit are considered many times by the Editor, and also by the Competition Editor and the adjudication staff in consultation, before the final awards are made. In a sentence, ALL coupons are read and considered, and re-read and re-considered by a specially selected staff of highly-qualified Adjudicators, under the general supervision of an experienced Competition Expert—and in consultation with the Editor. That is why "Bullets" constitute a genuine skill contest, free from any and every element of arbitrary decision or of chance selection.

Complete List of all cash and other Prize-winners in the above Competition can be seen at the Offices of "John Bull."

Racing Notes.

Last week was not without its sensations in Spring Handicap matters. On Thursday afternoon Sir Martin was scratched from the Lincolnshire, it being found that his leg would not stand the necessary winding-up gallops. The horse had been well treated, and was by way of being one of the favourites. Then on Friday Trianon III., at Hurst Park, beat the other Frenchman, Lutteur III. in the Champion Steeplechase, with Covertcoat a very bad third. Considering that they were racing at even weights over 3½ miles, it looks quite impossible for the present favourites to turn the tables at Aintree, for there Trianon has a big pull in the weights. It is, however, not safe to argue from what happens on a course such as Hurst Park is when considering national chances. Lutteur probably lost Friday's race by jumping "big." He was "up in the air" too long at every fence. This big jumping pays at Aintree, but is waste of time over smaller obstacles. Anyhow, it does not seem that Friday's performance has in any way lessened Lutteur's chance, if it has to an extent depreciated that of Covertcoat.

The National Hunt meeting, once a movable feast, but now apparently permanently located at Cheltenham, is down for consideration on Wednesday and Thursday, with Folkestone and Hooton Park to follow on the last two days of the week. At Cheltenham to-day (Wednesday) a very big field will go to post for the National Hunt Steeplechase. Of most of the competitors naturally very little is known, but on public performance the race looks like going to WAVELET, with Castlewrixon Lad as the danger. LYNCH PIN can win the Southam Steeplechase, and THE LAST the Cheltenham Grand Annual Steeplechase. To-morrow (Thursday) the best thing of the week occurs in WRACK* for the Gloucestershire Hurdle. SHAUN NA SCAUB should win the race chosen for him.

At Folkestone on Friday, TOLSTOY and EWELL LASS should win over fences, whilst on Saturday BOATSWAIN and IGNITION should win races.

At Hooton, the best thing on Friday seems to be NOAH for the Stewards' Steeplechase, and on the second day PRIMROSE PATH looks rather good for the Cheshire Hurdle.

The Editor is sending BUNCH O' KEYS, BEDGROVE, SILVER CHERRY and BRIERY to Cheltenham, and is hopeful of winning with them—especially the first two.

Football Fancies.

By "McW."

"Can you let me have £500?" I said it in a casual sort of way, much as if I was asking for a light, or a cigarette. The Boss looked at me with his steely stare, then snapped his reply, "Weren't you paid Saturday?"

That is his one great fault, he jumps to conclusions before he has got his feet on facts.

"It is not for myself I want the £500," said I. "I wish you to give the full Five Hundred Shiners to one of our football readers."

"Give £500!" he gasped. "What do you take me for, one of those conjuring chaps who extract bank notes from the nape of your neck, or rake in golden sovereigns from an air overcharged with bullion?

Then I spoke soothingly to the man of cheques. "In the goodness of your heart," said I, "would you not like, for once in a way, to be particularly generous. Offer £500 to the competitor who predicts six correct results out of thirty matches."

"Six results out of thirty matches! I thought you were an expert. Now I know that you are a lunatic." He is so impetuous.

"Listen," said I. "It is a case of £500 being given to the competitor predicting six teams who will win away from home."

"Dead easy! I shall be giving my money away."

"Well, you have got it to spare, and think of the happiness you will confer on some sapient competitor."

"But what shall I get in return, what will JOHN BULL get?"

"The cheapest advertisement you could wish for. I would not ask you to do it every week. It is an exceptional offer, just to show that JOHN BULL is an exceptional paper. It will mean quite £1,000 in advertisement."

"So, though we lose £500 we shall make a profit?"

"True, true, O! Boss!"

"So be it."

So it comes about that, for this week only, we are announcing the most wonderful offer ever made in a football competition. Go in, and win. £500 is waiting for you. You may read our splendid offer on another page of the paper. Somebody is almost sure to win our £500. It may be *you*.

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Football Selections from the Principal Papers.

Matches to be played Saturday, March 14th, 1914.

In view of the enormous interest now taken in the competitions conducted by numerous papers, the following table of selections compiled from the principal football authorities will be found to be an extremely useful guide—

	Matches played on ground of first-named Team.	Last Season's Result.	JOHN BULL	The Empire.	Weekly Dispatch	News of The World	Competitors' Journal	Sunday Chronicle	Sporting Gossip	Lloyd's Weekly
—FIRST LEAGUE—	Bolton Wanderers v. Derby County	Draw	Home	Home	Home	Home	Draw	Home	Home	Home
	Burnley v. Liverpool	No match	Home	Home	Home	Home	Draw	Home	Home	Home
	Chelsea v. Sheffield United	Chelsea won	Home	Home	Draw	Home	Draw	Home	Home	Home
	Everton v. Blackburn Rovers	Everton won	Away	Away	Draw	Draw	Home	Away	Home	Home
	Manchester United v. Aston Villa	United won	Away	Home	Away	Away	Home	Away	Home	Home
	Oldham Athletic v. Middlesbrough	Oldham won	Home	Home	Home	Home	Away	Home	Home	Away
	Preston North End v. Newcastle U.	No match	Away	Home	Draw	Away	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Sheffield Wed. v. Manchester C.	Sheffield won	Home	Draw	Home	Home	Home	Draw	Home	Home
	Sunderland v. Tottenham Hotspur	Draw	Draw	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	West Bromwich A. v. Bradford C.	Draw	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
—SECOND LEAGUE—	Birmingham v. Blackpool	Birmingham won	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Bradford v. Wolverhampton W.	Bradford won	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Bristol City v. Arsenal	Bristol won	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Clapton Orient v. Bury	Bury won	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Glossop v. Barnsley	Glossop won	Home	Draw	Draw	Away	Home	Home	Away	Away
	Grimsby Town v. Notts Forest	Draw	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Leeds City v. Huddersfield Town	Huddersfield won	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Notts County v. Leicester Fosse	No match	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Stockport County v. Hull City	Draw	Away	Away	Draw	Draw	Away	Away	Away	Draw
	Woolwich Arsenal v. Fulham	No match	Away	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
—SOUTHERN LEAGUE—	Gillingham v. Bristol Rovers	Gillingham won	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Away
	Norwich City v. Merthyr Town	Draw	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Watford v. West Ham United	West Ham won	Away	Away	Away	Home	Away	Away	Away	Home
	Coventry City v. Plymouth A.	Plymouth won	Away	Away	Away	Away	Home	Home	Away	Away
	Crystal Palace v. Southampton	Palace won	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Reading v. Queen's Park Rangers	Reading won	Home	Home	Draw	Home	Home	Away	Away	Away
	Northampton v. Swindon Town	Draw	Draw	Draw	Draw	Home	Home	Home	Away	Away
	Southend United v. Cardiff City	No match	Home	Draw	Home	Home	Away	Home	Home	Home
	Brighton and Hove A. v. Exeter C.	Brighton won	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Away	Home
	Portsmouth v. Millwall	Portsmouth won	Home	Home	Draw	Home	Draw	Draw	Away	Away

Don't forget the Pen Coupon on page iii of cover.

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£2,425 " " A. Bridgman, Esq., 36, High Street, Highgate, London, N.
£2,425 " " A. Troughton, Esq., 12, Central Markets, London, E.C.
£2,425 " " A. R. de Souza, Esq., 44, Colby Road, Gipsy Hill, London, S.E.
£2,425 8s. " " Lord Auckland, The Burrow, Howard Road, Bournemouth.
£1,612 " " Mrs. Burgess, 43, Ridgmount Gardens, London, W.
£1,212 10s. " " John Cotton, Esq., Golf Hotel, Crail, Scotland.
£1,212 " " Mrs. Miller, Littlewick Green, Maidenhead.
£1,212 " " Miss W. M. Everitt, 7, Admiralty Road, Portsmouth.
(Names published by permission.)

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Selected matches for March 14th, 1914.

Everton	v. Blackburn R.	Coventry C.	v. Plymouth A.
Preston N.E.	v. Newcastle U.	Northampton	v. Swindon T.
Glossop	v. Barnsley	Watford	v. West Ham U.
Stockport C.	v. Hull City	Swansea	v. Luton Town

Partick T. v. Aldrieonians

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